

the chronicle

Thread of genius as lacemakers stage exhibition

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Nail in the coffin warning over roadworks hell

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College to put on free bus service

A FREE bus service is to be launched to help get students to and from Dudley College after handouts used by many to travel to lessons were scrapped.

It will start running in September along key routes within the college's catchment area.

College bosses decided to launch the service after the Government scrapped the Education Maintenance Allowances, which provided up to £30 a week to help low-income students stay on at sixth forms and colleges.

A new £180million bursary scheme, which will allow colleges to make discretionary payments to support low-income students, has just been announced by the Government but college bosses said they felt they still needed to do something to encourage students who may otherwise struggle to afford their transport.

Dudley College Principal Lowell Williams said: "Around 78 per cent of our students had Education Maintenance Allowances and the majority said they used it on transport."

It's a cracker of a night out

THERE'S a chance to see funnyman Frank Carson in his show A Comedy Night Out when it stops off in Dudley.

Comedy legend Carson, along with Duncan Norville and Ian 'Sludge' Lees, will take to the stage at Dudley Concert Hall on April 14.

The trio have appeared on TV shows like TISWAS, Noel's House Party, Celebrity Squares and The Comedians.

Tickets are available from the box office on 01384 812812 or visit www.dudley.gov.uk/entertainment.

VE Day dance with sounds of Vera Lynn

STOURBRIDGE will be looking back to VE Day at a tea dance where a prize will be given for the best costume.

Stourbridge Town Hall will be filled with the sounds of Vera Lynn when it hosts the wartime-themed event on May 7 starting at 1pm. Admission to the event includes a cup of tea and cake. Tickets costing £5 are available on 01384 812812 or at www.dudley.gov.uk/entertainment

Churches' witness

A GOOD Friday Walk of Witness is being held in Sandwell on April 22. It is being organised by Churches Together in Bradley Heath and Old Hill and starts at 9am at St James Church in Highgate Street, Bradley Heath.

Chance to hunt egg

AN Easter egg hunt will be held at Sandwell Valley Park this weekend. Families are invited to the orienteering style hunt which runs from 11am to 3pm. Entry is £1.

Bank manager sent to prison for five years for his part in £60m mobile phone chips tax scam

A BANK manager from the Black Country has been jailed for five years for his part in a massive £60 million tax fraud.

Carl Harte from Manor Abbey Road, Halesowen, opened a bogus bank account to siphon off £3 million of the cash generated by the mobile phone VAT scam.

The 42-year-old bank special business relationship manager based at Barclays Bank in Hagley Road, Edgbaston, was locked up along with brother-in-law, businessman William Wright, 47, of Kings Norton, Birming-

ham, whose company Applied Services was used in the racket and got three years in behind bars.

Both were sentenced for money laundering.

Details of the scam can be revealed this week as a nine-year investigation came to an end with the sentencing of the final member of the gang.

Trials

Professional gambler Kuldip Singh Sander, 50, from Birmingham, was jailed for seven years on Tuesday at Birmingham Crown Court for siphoning millions of pounds from the fraud through bank accounts. The sen-

tencing triggered the lifting of reporting restrictions on the case that have been in force since 2006 and covered five trials.

Judge Stephen Davis QC, told Sander: "You were part of a very substantial and sophisticated fraud and £8m was laundered through these accounts never to be seen again."

Stephen Farrell from Warley Road, Oldbury, who ran two firms, Bluestar Communications and Solec Ltd, which were used to handle a further £5m from the racket, received a two-year prison term after admitting a similar offence. The gang

recruited corrupt customs officer Enda Moen from Northern Ireland to help the complex multi-million pound fraud. It involved

mobile phones and computer chips being bought abroad where they are free of VAT before being sold in this country with VAT added and the crooks pocketing the difference.

Numerous false VAT registered companies were set up along with bogus bank accounts in the sophisticated scam, smashed after one of the biggest operations involving Revenue and Customs officials.

Investigators followed a paper trail of businesses based throughout the UK and Europe. A 200-strong customs team made a string of raids in 2002 resulting in the arrest of

17 people, 11 of whom were from the West Midlands. They have now been jailed for a total of nearly 60 years.

Money generated by the fraud paid for a champagne lifestyle for some of the fraudsters.

Massive

Adrian Farley, assistant director for HM Revenue and Customs, said: "This was not some kind of victimless crime but organised fraud on a massive scale perpetrated by criminals all bent on making fast and easy profits at the expense of the British taxpayer."

The court heard Farrell had run his businesses with Philip Harris, 65, of Ferndale Road, Sutton Coldfield, who was sentenced to two-and-a-half years in prison.

David Dwyer, formerly of Goodrest Lane, Kings Norton, but later of Langford Avenue, Great Barr, was sentenced to four years in prison after being convicted of money laundering. Dwyer ran a company called Aslan Creations which received substantial cash payments of up to £170,000.

Brian Tucker, 57, of Dyas Road, Great Barr, was jailed for three years for money laundering as part of the scam.

AXE TO FALL ON TEACHING JOBS

MORE than 100 teachers and children's workers in the Dudley borough will be made redundant by the start of summer.

Twelve of the jobs being axed belong to teachers at primary and secondary schools across the area, while 60 workers have been handed notices telling them they are to be made compulsorily redundant.

This is on top of 41 voluntary redundancies already agreed as the authority seeks to cut £22 million from its budget in the 2011/12 financial year.

Secretary for the National Union of Teachers in Dudley, Jim Warner, said the union had asked for specific details of which staff at which schools were under threat.

He added that the NUT would be launching a consultation to discuss alternative possibilities.

"We are talking about opening up voluntary redundancy applications, reducing hours, job-sharing, things like that," he said.

"It's a terrible situation – these are not only people losing their jobs now, it means there are going to be fewer jobs for people in the

future, kids who are doing their training at the moment who won't have a job to go into.

"It's also a cut in provision for our children, fewer staff looking after them."

The consultation was due to get under way this week.

Dudley Council's cabinet member for children's services Councillor Liz Walker said the department was working hard to reduce the number of compulsory redundancies even further.

"We don't want to have to issue compulsory redundancy notices to anyone, and we have managed to get it down to 60 so far," she said.

"This process will go on until the end of August so we are working to get that number down even further."

Numbers

"Each school manages its own budget now so the teaching posts are counted separately.

"Part of the problem is that there are falling pupil numbers – we had the problem in primary schools which is why we had to close some, and now that is hitting secondary schools."

"I am not surprised they are talking about redundancies as well."

Jobs which may be affected include those for office workers and staff in children's centres and playgroups.



Fashion, fun and Eastern promise

FACE PAINTING and a cultural fashion show will be part of the fun when a women's group hosts an eastern twist in Halesowen.

The Women's Awareness Association is hosting the fun day at the town's Leisure Centre from 10.30am-3.30pm next Tuesday which will be attended by the mayor of Dudley, Councillor Peter Miller.

A bouncy castle has been booked to keep children entertained, while adults can enjoy a bazaar and a fashion show featuring Yemeni, Kurdish, Gulf and Moroccan costumes.

Guests will also be invited to view a museum of cultural artefacts before tucking into a menu of eastern food.

The day is being labelled as a Community Inspiration Event and will feature a talk from Councillor Miller on his journey from market trader to mayor.

For more information, to book a stall, or to make a donation, call the Women's Awareness Association on 07552 944341 or 07958 151023.

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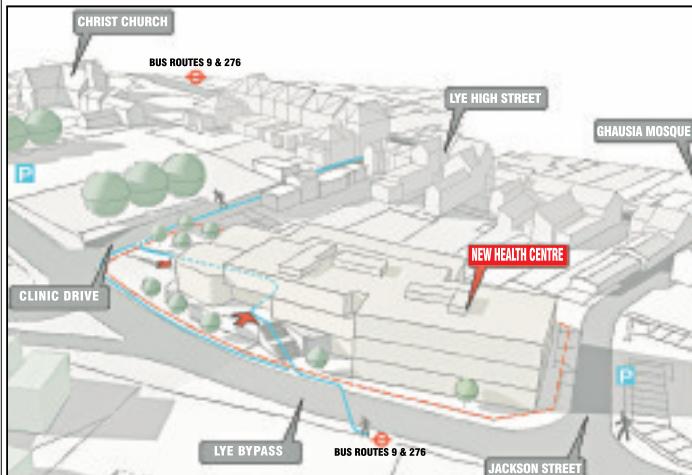
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Health hub plan goes on display



An architect's map outlining the location of the planned £7million medical centre in Lye, due for 2013

THE first designs for a new £7million medical centre offering GP practices and specialist treatments in Lye have been unveiled.

Health bosses hope the centre will be open by August 2013. Under the plans, the Limes Surgery in High Street and the Pedmore Road Surgery would relocate to the centre along with the Health for Lyfe shop.

There would also be treatment rooms including physiotherapy, podiatry, speech and language therapy and phlebotomy which involves collecting blood samples.

The centre, which will be built between Clinic Drive and Jackson Street, would house a pharmacy, cafe and meeting rooms, which could be used by community groups.

Midwifery and community nursing teams and counselling services would be based in the centre and there would be space outside for a mobile breast screening unit.

Viewed

Architects are drawing up plans for the complex and residents are now being consulted on the Dudley Primary Care Trust project.

The new complex in Lye would be similar to the £26m health and social centre in Venture Way, Brierley Hill and the £8m complex in John Corbett Drive, Stourbridge, which opened in 2010 and 2007 respectively.

Community engagement advisor at Dudley PCT, Helen Ashford, said: "This is a real opportunity for the local community to have their say about how the health centre should look and get answers to any questions they may have about the development."

It is hoped construction work could start in this month and it is expected to take just over a year to complete.

The new complex in Lye would be similar to the £26m health and social centre in Venture Way, Brierley Hill and the £8m complex in John Corbett Drive, Stourbridge, which opened in 2010 and 2007 respectively.

Park and ride for station on track

PLANS for a £4 million development to more than double the size of the park and ride scheme at a Black Country station are back on course.

Plans to create 480 new spaces at Rowley Regis are being revisited.

They were on hold due to lack of funding but passenger transport authority Centro says it is a "priority" and it has bought land off Station Road.

Mark Langford, of Centro, said: "The car parking at Rowley Regis train station is a priority development because we own the land."

Extension

"No set date is timetabled yet but redevelopment work will start later this year and then we will establish what work needs to be done and how much each part will cost."

Work was due to start this financial year but was hit by cuts.

Alongside those plans was a £1.2m extension of the Wednesbury Parkway Midland Metro stop, which would add 128 spaces on top of the 142 already in place.

Passengers had also hoped for more parking at Tame Bridge Parkway Midland Metro stop.

All three station car parks are regularly full with passengers forced to park on the pavement. Plans for Wednesbury Parkway and Tame Bridge Parkway remain "under evaluation".

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Pensioners' jobs are axed by firm



Some of the staff over retirement age, from left, Fred Wyke, aged 71, Ron Morgan, 77, John Broadstock, 73, Tony Handley, 70, Pat Batham, 72, John McCormick, 68, Dave Rogers, 67, John Merrick, 67, and Mike Wilde, 72

SEVENTEEN pensioners will lose their jobs at a Black Country firm because of changes in retirement laws.

Cleaning product firm Scot Young Research, with its UK HQ in Lye, Stourbridge, says jobs – up to 20 per cent of staff – have to go within weeks.

The workers, many in their 70s, were given notice before the new laws came in last week, which mean firms will no longer be able to insist employees retire at 65 – despite the possibility they may be fit to work.

Firm chairman Scot Young said the changes forced them to end its policy of encouraging workers to continue past retirement age.

He fears the weaker economy and smaller pensions will put older workers under more pressure to continue in employment. Mr Young, aged 75, said this could

mean staff would become less truthful about the state of their health to keep their jobs past retirement age.

He said the firm had actively encouraged older members of staff to continue on past retirement age since it was formed in 1954.

Benefits

"I don't just feel sad, I feel bitter about the whole situation," he said. "We have encouraged older people who have reached retirement age to stay with us and stay on working. We have received great benefits from the experience of these people.

"When we heard about this legislation, it hit us like a ton of bricks."

He said there was no suggestion that any of his current workers were not fit for the job but he felt a flexible retirement age

could cause problems in future. Credit control officer Tony Handley, aged 70, has worked at the company for 15 years.

"I fully understand Mr Young's problem. It has been a lovely company to work for and I would have liked to be able to stay on," said Mr Handley, of Fairfield Drive, Wollaston, Stourbridge.

Sales executive Mike Wild, 72, of Sutton Coldfield said: "Being able to work on for seven years past me retirement age has given me some considerable freedom."

John Broadstock, also 72, a maintenance worker for the firm for nine years, said the social side of the company and the feeling of contributing to something was important.

Mr Young said they already conducted annual reviews into the health and well being of older employees.

Cameras switched off in cost cuts bid

SPEED cameras across the West Midlands are being switched off as part of measures to save almost £1million a year.

Police want to reduce the expense of running 304 cameras in the region, 86 of which are already dummies.

Only 34 cameras in the West Midlands are frequently used – four in Dudley, three in Wolverhampton, two in Walsall, six in Sandwell, 18 in Birmingham and one in Solihull.

Danger

Operating times for those cameras were already limited to 15 days a month and from last week were being reduced to 10 days a month to save £310,000 as part of measures to cut £950,000 from the taxpayers' bill for cameras of £1.95m a year.

All other cameras in the West Midlands will either be dummies or used very rarely.

West Midlands Police classifies cameras as either red, amber or green, depending on road danger levels. The 34 most frequently used cameras are deemed red.

Under the new measures 57 cameras at "amber" sites will operate four days a month, rather than seven.

The "green" cameras will be used even more rarely. Ellen Booth, campaigns officer for road safety group Brake, criticised the move.

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COMPETITION

Chef to the stars will cook up a saucy treat

Host dinner party for friends – without having to lift a pan

TO celebrate the launch of Island Cuisine, a new range of adventurous cooking sauces from the Seychelles the Chronicles series is giving one lucky winner the chance to host the ultimate Creole dinner party.

Creator of Island Cuisine and chef to the stars, Ronnie Albert is now bringing his Island Cuisine range of sauces to the West Midlands.

Inspired by his grandfather and the beautiful island of his birth, Ronnie has captured the adventure of the Seychelles in four distinctive flavours including Green Creole Curry Sauce, Yellow Creole Curry Sauce, Red Creole Curry Sauce and Sweet and Spicy Creole Sauce.

Ronnie, who has cooked for the likes of Catherine Zeta Jones, Tony Blair and Brad Pitt, will bring his unique cooking style to your home in this "money-can't-buy" prize.

Dipping

The Island Cuisine chef will give you a culinary course in Creole cooking, which is a blend of Indian, Asian, African and French flavours, as he prepares a feast for you and five of your friends. The meal will include a traditional Seychellois starter, main course and dessert.

Five runners up will receive a pack of the four different sauces.

To be in with a chance of winning, simply answer this question:

To which continent does the Seychelles belong?

1. Europe
2. Asia
3. Africa

The Island Cuisine range costs £1.99 per jar and is now on sale in Tesco stores, they're perfect for dipping or adding to chicken or pork for a tasty meal.

For more information:

<http://www.islandcuisine.co.uk>



Chef Ronnie Albert with his range of sauces

HOW TO ENTER

To stand a chance of winning send your answer on a postcard with your name, address and contact number (only one entry per household) to Sauce Competition, Chronicle series (editorial) 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES. Closing date: Thursday April 14.

Usual rules apply. Editor's decision is final

Geology of region on web

GLOBAL geology experts are setting their sights on the Black Country thanks to two new websites.

The Black Country Atlas, with information about aggregate quarries in the region and was set up as part of the Black Country Consortium's website. It can be found at www.the-blackcountry.com

The second site, Geology Matters, is a database of Black Country geological collections and

contains more than 2,000 high-resolution images. The site at <http://geologymatters.org.uk> also offers a facility for discussion and forum among geology enthusiasts.

Graham Whorton, keeper of geology at Dudley Museum, said: "Geology is entering the electronic age in a powerful way with the launch of these two sites. They bring together a wealth of information, including thousands of high resolution images."

£740,000 spent to cut hospital running cost

Charity work keeps motoring

A DONATED car will help teach young people mechanical and other skills as it is dismantled, repaired, stripped and rebuilt.

At Barnardo's Wheels, Gainsborough Trading Estate, Stourbridge, young people are helped with vocational and practical mechanical skills as well as reading, writing, health and safety.

Graeme Manton, manager of Apley Estate, Norton, near Bridgnorth, who donated the car, said his daughter no longer needed the Peugeot 106 Aztec. It needed a little work but it started and runs well.

The donation was organised by Hagley Car Club secretary Martyn Silcox, who said they were keen to promote the safety and technical aspects of motoring, and to support Barnardo's, as their adopted charity.

Barnardo's Wheels manager Ian Hinksman said: "We have to source many cars over a year for the students to repeatedly take apart and rebuild".



Ian Hinksman, Martyn Silcox and student Liam Evitts with the donated Peugeot 106

HOSPITAL bosses in Dudley have spent more than £740,000 asking for advice from consultancy firms to help cut costs during the past 12 months.

Chief executive Paula Clark said hiring experts had enabled them to save money despite shelling out £191,500 more on outside firms than in the previous year.

It is hoped the trust, which runs Russells Hall and the Guest hospitals in Dudley and the Corbett in Stourbridge will save £2.1 million by reducing costs across the three sites.

Bosses say they have also been able to improve patient care by slashing waiting times for out-patient appointments and operations.

Savings

Money has been saved by changes made to admissions meaning patients go into hospital on the day of their surgery rather than the day before. Bosses have also looked at extending operating lists for theatres to reduce the time patients spend on wards waiting for surgery. The hospital trust spent £741,000 in 2010/11 compared with £551,000 in 2009/10.

Chief executive Paula Clark said: "Since working on our transformation programme we have achieved savings in excess of the cost." The Dudley Group of Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust needs to save £30million between April 2011 and March 2014 due to Government cuts.

Leisure centre plan on view

MEMBERS of the public can view plans for the new £8.8 million leisure centre in Tipton at the town's library. The centre will include a 25-metre swimming pool and will be built on the junction of Alexandra Road and Thursfield Road.

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thechronicle

Bird boxes
bring joy
to hospice
patients

KIND-HEARTED pupils at a Stourbridge school have donated hand-made bird boxes and feeders to patients at the town's Mary Stevens Hospice.

The group of 15 students, aged 13, at Redhill School in Junction Road made the nesting and feeding stations as part of a product design project. They decided to donate their colourful creations to the hospice so that patients could enjoy observing a variety of birds in the garden.

Design technology teacher Vic Clarke, said: "The students were taught how to create the basic shape of the bird box and were then given a free reign to decorate them."

Hospice head of fundraising Janet Jones said: "I know our patients will enjoy watching the birds in the gardens."



Day patient Robert Cotterill, head of fundraising Janet Jones and pupils Sophie Round, Katie Whitehead and Jess Round with the bird boxes

Careers centres shut up for good

TWO careers advice centres in Dudley, which have helped thousands of youngsters find work, have closed down.

Kent-based Prospects Services Ltd lost a £1.3million deal after failing to agree new terms with Dudley Council.

The contract between the two organisations ended last week and it has emerged the shops in Dudley and Stourbridge have now shut down for good. They

employed a total of 35 people. Eighteen of the workers are to move over to Dudley Council and will work in specific roles to deal with children who have special needs. It is not clear what will happen to the rest of the staff.

Prospects Services is believed to be considering whether to take the case to a judicial review.

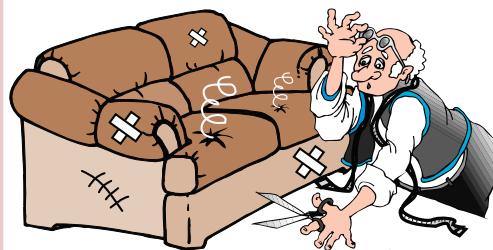
Dudley Council education chief Councillor Liz Walker said: "We have been in negotiations with Prospects but they are still not

happy. We are taking 18 of their people to continue the service. We have to wait and see what happens."

She said children were now being directed to the council if they needed careers advice. The local authority has 46 officers to help with careers advice.

More than 3,000 people have signed a petition against the withdrawal of council funding to the Connexions centres, in Stourbridge and Dudley.

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Style-conscious Bertie the terrier would look just great out on the catwalk

 **Ruff justice on hoodie**



Snoo dog – the terrier shows off his street cred with an "ASBO" hoodie

 **Bow-wow tie flying the flag**



Canine chic – formal attire with a bow tie in the colours of the Lithuanian flag

 **Ermine the mood now**



It's the royal look for Bertie, in a purple satin cloak with "ermine" trim

 **Pup is striped for action**



For the dog who doesn't have to try, the all-action pooch seen with a rugby jersey

Pampered pet dogged by fashion



Time for reflection as Bertie checks his appearance

BERTIE the dog has the same problem most women face every day – what shall I wear?

The fashion-conscious Yorkshire terrier crossed with a dachshund boasts his own wardrobe – a large wicker basket full of dozens of outfits at his Stourbridge home.

There's his rugby-player look, formal attire, his "ASBO" hoodie, camouflage gear and countless neckerchiefs in a range of designs and

Paws for thought: Outfits worn by Bertie the terrier have made him a fashion icon.
Louise Jew reports

colours. He even has one containing a water gel that can be triggered to cool him down while exercising.

Bertie, aged 14, belongs to American-born glass jewellery designer Sabre Gilmartin, of Heath Street, Stourbridge, who loves to kit him out in cool numbers that would look great on the catwalk.

She keeps up with doggie fashions online and buys his clothes from all over the world, as well as at dog and fashion shows.

"He enjoys dressing up because he knows it makes him look cute and he gets more attention that way," said Sabre, aged 69, who grew up in New York and came to Stourbridge from her

previous home in Surrey to take a course in glass-making about seven years ago. "He's a proper showman and also does agility displays – and when a crowd cheers it's like he's lifted in the air with the joy of approval."

Bertie was a stray and bald through malnutrition when he decided to adopt Sabre as his owner by jumping into her car when the door was open.

That was over 12 years ago and, after his fur grew back, Sabre decided to kit him out with a green sweater to keep him warm as he accompanied her running a stall in London's Portobello Road.

"He didn't like it because it was synthetic and made him itch but I

later tried him with other woolies, which he liked," she said.

"Then I started buying more and more outfits for him."

"I've never added up what I spend on his clothes. Most outfits come in at under £10, although some that I buy on ebay from a lady who sews them in New York cost a bit more."

Bertie's formal attire, boasting a bow tie in the colours of the Lithuanian flag, was purchased for him to act the role of a professor in a quest to find "Top Dog", a competition run on Animal Planet TV. He was voted the fifth "top dog" in Europe as a result of the contest.

The posing pooch also reached the final 10 of the contest to find a "Toto", Dorothy's dog, in Andrew Lloyd-Webber's production of the Wizard of Oz. But Lord Lloyd-Webber dismissed Bertie as "too short". Doggone!



Bertie with Sabre Gilmartin Pictures: Patrick Mulveney

Elizabeth Perry

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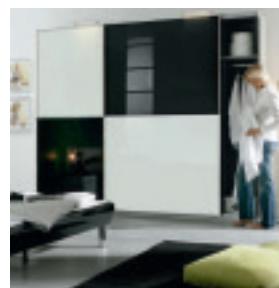
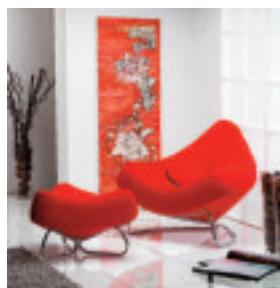
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thechronicle

Sleepers
in park
set alight

FRESHLY-LAID plants have been ripped up and wooden sleepers used to raise flower beds set on fire in the latest vandal attack at a Dudley park.

Vandals climbed over gates at King George V Park, Wordsley, to carry out the wrecking spree, leaving hundreds of pounds worth of damage in their wake.

Rubbish was placed beneath the sleepers and

set alight and the plants were ripped up and left strewn around the park.

Empty cans of alcohol were also left littering the ground.

Nearby residents were horrified to discover the extent of the damage last Tuesday.

Spokesman for Dudley Council Chris Howes said: "We are currently looking into the extent of the damage done and what work needs carrying out."

Chief's fond farewell
after 36 years in force

WHEN Steve Dugmore was a young bobby on the beat, Austin Allegros had square steering wheels and the 1970s were in full swing.

In the years that followed, he saw a colleague blown off the roof of a police station, the horrific aftermath of the 1974 pub bombings in Birmingham and the riots in Handsworth and Loxells.

And, despite being assaulted on his first day on the beat, outgoing chief of Sandwell Police says he does not regret a moment.

Chief Superintendent Steve Dugmore is retiring as part of a cull of officers who have given more than 30 years' service.

West Midlands Police Authority is using regulation A19 to force 300 officers into retirement as it battles to save £120 million.

Mr Dugmore, who grew up in Coseley, joined the force as a cadet in August 1972, and won runner-up Cadet of the Year for the West Midlands in a three-year period before joining the force proper.

Bombings

It was far from a gentle introduction however, as he joined in the wake of the IRA pub bombings in Birmingham, which killed 21 people in 1974.

And Mr Dugmore, aged 54, had first-hand experience of the tragedy which descended on the city, as friends and colleagues were caught up in separate explosions.

The Tavern in the Town, since renamed the Yard of Ale on New Street, was targeted along with the Mulberry Bush.

Mr Dugmore said: "I remember it was a really sombre time. I had a friend who was in the Tavern in Town who was injured in the blast but thankfully it was not worse.

"And another colleague I remember went to open a suspicious package around the time of the bombings at Steelhouse Lane police station and he was blown 15ft over a metal fence. He was very lucky not to be injured."

Not only were spirits low around the city but Mr Dugmore was given a baptism of fire on patrol in Birmingham City Centre



Right: Steve Dugmore, Chief Superintendent LPU commander at Sandwell and above, Steve as a police constable in 1976 when he was asked to be in a photograph with a model on New Street, Birmingham



on his first day in the job. He says: "I chased a man and a woman using a credit card they got from a kidnapping to a shop and, as they tried to get away out the back, I was assaulted.

"I had cuts and bruises from punches and kicks. I think it was a sign of things to come."

Mr Dugmore spent three years as a bobby on the beat until 1978 then working as a traffic motorcyclist and later in surveillance, including tracking those involved in the Handsworth and Loxells riots.

In the same unit he met his wife Denise, a now-retired detective sergeant, with whom he has two children.

A move to CID for Wednesbury, Tipton and West Bromwich beckoned, where he was digging into "a number of murders".

He joined Sandwell Operational Command Unit four years ago, and was asked to lead the new Local Policing Unit (LPU) in 2010.

Under his stewardship, recorded crime fell over the last year with 2,742 fewer victims compared to 2009.

"The people I have met, including volunteers working together to make the borough better for everybody, have been remarkable," he said.

"It's a real credit the way people come together. I was given an award by the borough's mayor at full council recently and to be recognised by the people you are trying to serve was truly humbling."

"I've had 36 years of service but I could not have asked for a better place to end my career."

"It's been a real privilege."

Coach journey ended in a golden romance for couple



The couple's wedding day

A COUPLE who caught each other's eye on a coach trip have celebrated 50 years of married bliss in Dudley. Brian and Irene Tong, aged 75 and 72, met in the summer of 1956 while on a visit to Stourport and have now marked their golden wedding anniversary. They started talking and "the rest is history", said Mrs Tong.

They courted for five years before tying the knot at St Augustine of Hippo church in Holly Hall, Dudley on March 25 1961.

Mr Tong, originally from Woodsetton, worked as a lorry driver and a warehouse manager while Mrs Tong, who was brought up in Holly Hall, worked on the factory floor making steel kegs and drums at Griffin Brothers in Dudley.

The couple, of Russells Hall Road, now enjoy weekends and holidays away in their caravan in Bridgnorth.

Mrs Tong said the secret to a long and happy marriage was "to look after each other".

"We have always been together and always will be," said Mrs Tong. The couple celebrated with a party at home for relatives and friends.

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Another nail in the coffin warning over roadworks

TRADERS in Dudley have warned shutting off streets for weeks at a time would cause "chaos" - and said it could be yet another "nail in the coffin" for the ailing town centre.

A rolling programme of works in the town centre will see 64 streets closed at some point over the next 18 months while essential maintenance is carried out on utility pipes.

Alan Caswell, who owns The Arcade Toy Shop in Fountain Arcade, is

among those who fear they will be affected by the work. Both High Street and Tower Street - where Fountain Arcade leads - are listed in upcoming road closures.

"If the work needs to be done, it needs to be done - but they need to make sure it's done quickly," said Mr Caswell, aged 58.

Shocked

"It's chaos around the centre on a normal day due to the lack of parking so I can't imagine what's going to be like."

"We have to take deliveries from 40ft lorries, if the road is shut it's going to be really tough."

"People just aren't going to come in to the town - it could be just another nail in the coffin for this end of town."

Cynthia Burgin, who runs Burgin's Paper Shop in Wolverhampton Street, said she was shocked to hear the news. "It will cause chaos," said Mrs Burgin, aged 80.

"I hope they don't close the whole road all at once as it will impact on us terribly. A lot of traffic comes down here to Himley and Wombourne, where will they go?"

And Peter Suddock, chief executive of Dudley Zoo, said he had been in talks with Severn Trent Water, which had agreed not to start work in Castle Hill until September or October.

"We don't want any disruption during the summer holidays or around bank holidays, so September or October is best as we're not as busy," he said.

South Staffs Water spokeswoman Alex Martin said phase one of their work would take place between Steppingstone Street and The Inhedge, starting on May 24, and going on until mid-August.

Meanwhile, work between Parkway Road and Alexandra Street would be carried out during the summer holidays to cut disruption to parents and students at Jessons C of E Primary School.

She said work would be carried out between New Mill Street and King Street on an ad-hoc basis. "We have estimated that we have around 12 months worth of work to be carried out," she added.

THE Black Country's unique answer to the shuttle bus - Stourbridge's Parry People Mover - could soon be introduced to African nations.

The company hopes a visit by the UK Ambassador for Zimbabwe, Gabriel Machinga, to Stourbridge Junction station to take a ride on the tram-like People Mover could lead to a multi-million pound deal and create dozens of jobs.

The lightweight tram, which links Stourbridge Town and Stourbridge Junction stations, is powered by a rotating flywheel which stores and uses kinetic energy from braking.

The visit was organised by Southern Marketing Services and Mr Machinga was so impressed he said he would be writing to his country's

finance minister to discuss the possibility of importing the Parry People Mover technology.

He said: "I have been very impressed with what I experienced in Stourbridge," he said.

"In Harare, our capital city, the transport infrastructure cannot cope with the amount of people we have coming in to work from the suburbs."

Challenges

"There are long queues to get on the minibuses we have to provide, and long traffic jams."

"I think the technology I have seen in Stourbridge is relevant to what we are looking for to help tackle the problem. It would go a long way to relieving our challenges," Mr Machinga said. Zimbabwe was often not possible. The service will be held at 12.30pm, ahead of the scheduled 3pm kick-off against Fulham.

Printed

Supporters who wish to remember their loved ones are being asked to email their name to fans@wolves.co.uk

The names will then be printed on the service sheet which will be handed out on the day. Fans have until April 19 to send in names. Chaplain, the Rev David Wright, said it was an opportunity for quiet remembrance for those they love but see no longer.

babwe was hoping to lead the way in improving its transport system in southern Africa.

"We are trying to get a mass integration of systems, including roads, but mostly rail travel," he said.

"This visit is a chance to expose to the rest of the region what technology is available."

John Parry, owner of the company behind the Parry People Movers, said the visit had been successful for his firm and its supplier Clayton.

But he added: "It is going to have to be a steady programme."

"We can't dive straight from running a single line to running dozens across a whole country."

"If all goes to plan now however, it could mean a massive boost to our country, and dozens of jobs could be created."

STREETS AFFECTED IN DUDLEY



PHASE ONE - STARTS APR 11:	
● Parkway Road	● St James' Road
● Grange Road	● Tinchbourne Street
● School Street	● Priory Street
● Grange Street	● Stone Street
● Russell Street	● Cross Street
● Vicarage Prospect	● Priory Road
● Nelson Road	● Alma Place
● Edward Street	● Churchfield Street
● Alexandra Street	● Wellington Road
● Wolverhampton Street	● The Belper
● Himley Road	● Gads Lane
● Steppingstone Street	● Great Hill
● Greystone Passage	● Vicar Street
● Pitfield Row	● Constitution Hill
● Pitfield Street	● Court Passage
● Greystone Street	● Rutland Passage
● Stafford Street	● New King Street
● The Inhedge	● Dock Lane
● High Street	● Tower Street
● Union Street	● Fountain Arcade
● New Mill Street	● Oakeywell Street
● Market Place	

PHASE TWO - STARTS OCT 3:

● Flood Street	● Birmingham Street
● King Street Passage	● Fisher Street
● The Minories	● St Joseph Street
● King Street	● Porters Field
● Castle Hill	● Birdcage Walk
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Wolves fans remembered at service

A MEMORIAL service is being held to honour Wolves supporters who have died.

It will take place at St Peter's College Church, Wolverhampton, on April 23.

The service has been organised in response to hundreds of requests for pre-match silences or for ashes to be scattered at Molineux, which football club bosses said was often not possible. The service will be held at 12.30pm, ahead of the scheduled 3pm kick-off against Fulham.

Printed

Supporters who wish to remember their loved ones are being asked to email their name to fans@wolves.co.uk

The names will then be printed on the service sheet which will be handed out on the day. Fans have until April 19 to send in names. Chaplain, the Rev David Wright, said it was an opportunity for quiet remembrance for those they love but see no longer.

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39 NHS jobs axed in cuts at health trust

THIRTY-NINE NHS jobs are being axed in Dudley as part of plans to cut costs during the next financial year.

Bosses revealed that 23 workers at NHS Dudley and 16 at Dudley Community Services, which are both branches of Dudley Primary Care Trust, were told their jobs are "at risk".

A total of 23 workers have been able to find work at other NHS trusts in the region. Any of the remaining staff unable to find alternative employment will be made redundant.

The positions range from administrative roles to senior managers. Each post within the trust has been assessed to determine whether it is required. None of the affected roles was in a frontline position.

NHS Dudley needs to save £42million by March 2014.

Dudley PCT spokeswoman Laura Broster said further redundancies may have to be made in the future.

"I can confirm that 23 staff at NHS Dudley and 16 staff in Dudley Community Services have recently had their jobs placed 'at risk'. The PCT has been working hard to find these employees alternative employment," she said.

Police and Trading Standards went to Kahn's newsagents, Wolverhampton Street, at about midday on March 28.

An illegal immigrant was found in a flat above the shop and was taken into custody as the Home Office drew up papers to have him returned to his home country.

The haul was found as officers executed a drugs warrant. No drugs were found. Sgt James Harrison said the tobacco and watches were being checked for signs they were counterfeit.

"Making redundancies is always a last resort.

"The PCT has now achieved the management cost savings required for 2011-12 and no further redundancies will be made as a result of this target."

But she said, PCTs would cease to exist after April 2013 and reduced demand for PCT services could follow.

Brewery scoops Camra gold



Holden's director Lucie Holden and estates manager James Froggatt, with the awards

A FAMILY brewery in the Black Country has scooped a prestigious award for its much-loved Old Ale.

Holden's in Dudley was presented with a national gold award from Camra in the barley wines category of its Champion Winter Beer of Britain awards. The beer, which is 7.2 per cent

in strength, has been produced by the brewery at Christmas for 20 years. Staff are now also going to brew it over the summer months.

Owner Jonathan Holden said the award was a testament to the hard work of everyone at the brewery, based in Woodsetton.

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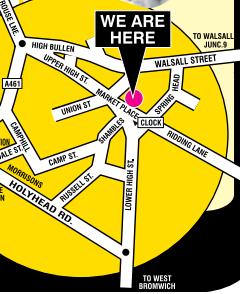
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Warman poised to run for mayor

TELEVISION news-reader Bob Warman may try to become Birmingham's first elected mayor.

The face of Central Tonight has said he has been asked to put his name forward by "influential people".

It is thought the presenter, born in Walsall, is likely to stand as an independent if he does decide to run for office.

He said: "I am considering running for mayor. It is something which has been put to me and I am going to give it serious consideration."

Warman, who would not name his potential backers, added: "There is a group of influential people in Birmingham who would like to see me become mayor."

At the moment just two candidates, former Erdington Labour MP Sion Simon and retired policeman Ray Egan, have declared their intention to run. If a referendum next year supports the idea the ballot could be held in 2013.

Warman, aged 64, would almost certainly have to stand down as Central presenter if he puts his name forward.



Joe Mason with his mother Sharon in the field where he suffered bruises and grazes to his legs

Warning over thefts of metal

METAL THEFTS could continue to increase as steel prices escalate around the world, a Black Country business leader warned.

Stewart Towe, head of the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership, said floods in north-east Australia had washed away stocks of coking coal needed in steel production.

Steel shortages have already begun

in the wake of the disaster, Mr Towe said, driving up the price.

He said: "If steel prices continue to escalate, metal thefts could continue to go up. A lot of metal is melted down and stolen scrap is obviously part of that."

"The only way to avoid the rise caused in eastern Australia would be if authorities could stabilise the supply of coking coal."

AN EIGHT-YEAR-OLD BOY was hurt when he was dragged along the ground by a galloping stray horse near his home.

Joe Mason became tangled in a chain dangling from the animal's neck at a playing field. The youngster was left with badly bruised and grazed legs following the horrifying ordeal.

Joe told his mother the horse broke free from its tether and charged at him when he went to the playing field in Bryce Road, Pensnett, to fetch a ball.

His mother, Sharon, who has reported the incident to police and Dudley Council, is calling for urgent action to end the problem of ponies on the loose in the borough.

Joe was playing with two young friends in Bryce Road, a cul-de-sac outside his home, when their ball was kicked onto the playing field on March 30 at 6.30pm.

"Joe went onto the field to fetch it but he has told me that a big grey horse charged at him," said Mrs Mason, aged 40, an office worker for a transport company.

Petrified

"There was a long chain around its neck and it wrapped around both of Joe's legs as the horse galloped by. We don't know how far he was dragged but Joe says it seemed a long way. He was petrified but managed to wriggle free."

"We have since seen that it has been tethered back on to a metal stake."

He was kept at home from his school, Crestwood Park Primary, the following day because he was still shaken.

John Millar, director of the urban environment, said: "We are currently investigating the incident in liaison with the police."

Tower blocks coming down a year early

A PAIR of eyesore tower blocks in Tipton are set to be pulled down a year early to make way for new housing.

The two 13-storey blocks at Bolton Court were due to be demolished next year.

But due to trespassers and health and safety fears they will be razed within weeks.

New homes will then be built on the site as part of a wider redevelopment of the area.

Sandwell's council leader Councillor Darren Cooper made an emergency decision to pull down the block.

He said: "Because of the health and safety issues surrounding that block and people getting in there and messing about, we are going to demolish them as soon as possible."

"I am hoping it will be

done within the month. I have asked officers to get on with it. They are an eyesore, a blot on the landscape and they need to be pulled down."

"Despite the fact people might be trespassing on them by going in there in the first place, if they injure themselves it is our property and we are still liable."

Pumping

The two 1960s blocks were recommended for demolition in a council report in April last year. Residents who have been moved out have been given compensation.

The Bolton Court development was constructed on the site of a former pumping station.

Approval has already been given to build 42 two-bedroom council flats on land at Bolton Court in Ocker Hill Road on land formerly occupied by 20 maisonettes.



Bessie Clayes and Michelle Preston, of Wall Heath's Compton Hospice shop, preparing for the indoor Royal Wedding party to raise money for the charity

Royal wedding indoor party

A STREET PARTY with a twist is being held to celebrate the Royal Wedding – with all of the activities, including a screening of the big event, being held indoors.

Michelle Preston, who works for the Compton Hospice charity, has organised the event which will be held at the community centre in Enville Road, Wall Heath, on April 29. She had originally hoped to stage it outdoors in Blaze Park but the logistics proved too daunting.

So it was decided to approach the celebration from a different angle and stage the event at the community centre instead.

Admission will cost £5 with proceeds going to Compton Hospice.

Food and drink will be provided and there will be traditional games such as bingo, pass the parcel and a raffle.

A large screen will be set up at the centre so people can watch as Prince William and Kate Middleton tie the knot.

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- Visit to the Menin Gate
- Services of a guide and tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787)

the pulse

The biggest gig yet for urban pop trio



URBAN pop star trio N-Dubz bring their Love Live Life Tour to the LG Arena, Birmingham, at the end of this month.

Dappy, Fazer and Tulisa, above, will be in concert at the LG, with special guest fellow Mobo winner Professor Green, on Friday, April 29, the day before their triumphant homecoming at London's O2 Arena.

The four times Mobo winners will be playing to their biggest

audiences yet as the first UK urban pop outfit to play an arena tour, during their 10 April dates which also take in Nottingham, Manchester, Newcastle and Glasgow.

The Camden Town trio sold more than a million copies of their debut album Uncle B and 2009 follow-up Against All Odds while third album Love Live Life sees them aiming for popularity State-side.

Jay Kay keen to be back on road

THE cat in the hat is back... Frontman Jay Kay is returning with Jamiroquai for the soulful jazz-funk band's first UK tour in more than five years.

Jamiroquai will be at the LG Arena on Sunday, April 17, as one of only four UK dates before they boogie on over to the continent...

The international popularity of the group is apparently as strong as ever with latest and seventh album Rock Dust Light Star having charted in more than 20 countries.

"I can't wait to get back out on the road and tour, particularly round the UK where we

haven't toured for a while," said Jay Kay.

"We're looking forward to playing stuff from the new album as well as giving you new twists on plenty of the old hits."

The group has a seventh hit album under its belt and adding to the 26 million-plus albums sold to date, plus a shelf full of awards including an Ivor Novello, a Grammy and five MTV gongs.

Those who saw their Hyde Park show with Stevie Wonder last summer reckon Jay Kay and co are still at the peak of their powers.



Jay Kay is back touring with Jamiroquai

Come swim with the Guillemots

GUILLMOTS return to Birmingham for a secret gig on Sunday, ahead of the release of their third album Walk the River.

The venue will not be revealed until the day, but lead-singer and former local-boy Fife Dangerfield can be found performing solo at IKON Gallery the day before.

Back with the Guillemots, Dangerfield admits he is really excited to be playing with his band again.

He said: "The secret gig is an idea we've always liked, ever since The Libertines started doing it. It's an exciting way for us to come back."

Walk the River promises to be more melodic, fragile and innovative than their last two albums, as Dangerfield's solo career gave the band more time to write songs.

Dangerfield said: "We always try and make an original record and create our own world in the music. "Then we invite people to come

By Jon Pritchard

and swim around in it." The transformation from band member to solo artist was an easy one for the talented Dangerfield, his cover of Billy Joel's Always a Woman reached number seven in the charts thanks to help from a John Lewis advert aired over Christmas.

Dangerfield said: "It was a bizarre thing; it just happened. The success of the song wasn't down to me, it's a great song. It is weird being known for it, but it won't be my legacy."

Moved

Guillemots gained a reputation for using alternative instruments following their debut album Through the Windowpane, but he insists their improvisation is nothing special.

He said: "When I moved to Cheltenham when I was around 19, I found this scene of impro-

vised music. It was a real eye opener; people were using normal instruments in different ways.

"Now I know that nothing and everything is an instrument. They're all just strings and wood in the end."

Growing up in Birmingham also influenced Dangerfield's outlook on music. His parents gave him licence to create whenever he could, and the music scene gave him a way to express it.

He said: "There was a band from Birmingham called The Starries who very nearly made it. They played some of the best gigs I've ever seen. They were all different but so closely knit. They really influenced my late teens."

For all his talent and ability, Dangerfield keeps his feet firmly on the ground. He admits music is his life, but believes it is just a game without rules.

He said: "It's easy to forget that and start to think you need to abide by rules. You don't."



TV listings start - page 24

YOUR EIGHT-PAGE ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE AND WEEK'S TV VIEWING



Theatre and show round-up - page 23



Reviews and gigs - page 28

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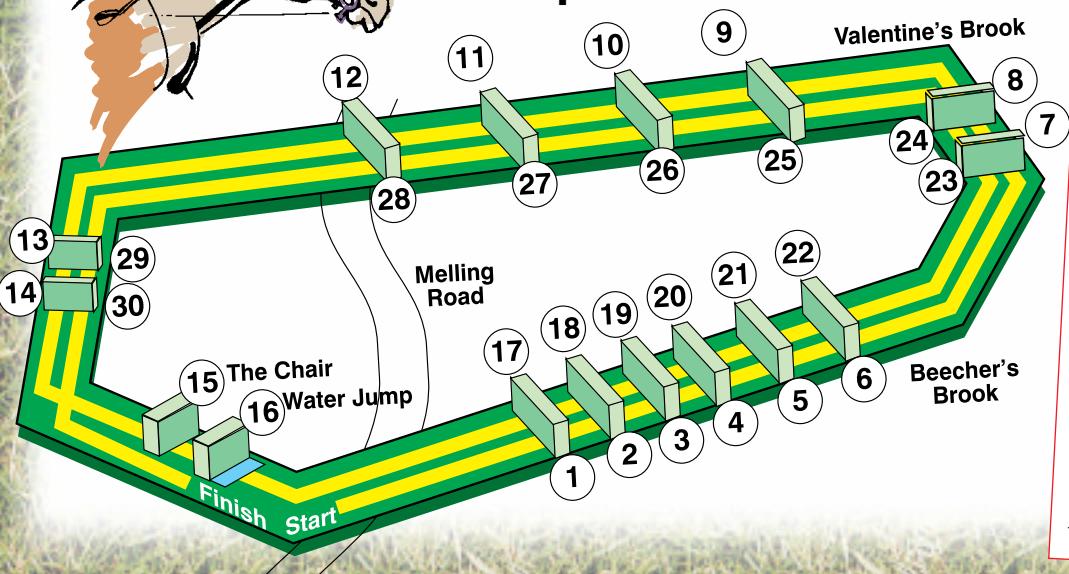
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The Grand National

Saturday 9th April 2011



HISTORY OF NATIONAL WINNERS

YEAR	HORSE
2010	Don't Push It
2009	Mon Mom
2008	Comply or Die
2007	Silver Birch
2006	Numbersixvalverde
2005	Hedgehunter
2004	Amberleigh House
2003	Monty's Pass
2002	Bindaree
2001	Red Marauder
2000	Papillon
1999	Bobbyjo
1998	Earth Summit
1997	Lord Gyllene
1996	Rough Quest
1995	Royal Athlete
1994	Minnehoma
1993	Race Void - false starts, Esha Ness finished first
1992	Party Politics
1991	Seagram
1990	Mr Frisk
1989	Little Polveir
1988	Rhyme n Reason
1987	Maori Venture
1986	West Tip
1985	Last Suspect
1984	Hallo Dandy
1983	Corbiere
1982	Grittar
1981	Aldaniti
1980	Ben Nevis
1979	Rubstic
1978	Lucius
1977	Red Rum
1976	Rag Trade
1975	L'Escargot
1974	Red Rum
1973	Red Rum
1972	Well To Do
1971	Specify
1970	Gay Trip
1969	Highland Wedding
1968	Red Alligator
1967	Foinavon
1966	Anglo
1965	Jay Trump
1964	Team Spirit
1963	Ayala
1962	Kilmore
1961	Nicolaus Silver
1960	Merryman II

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ITV2
4.30 Harry Hill's TV Burp Compilation 5.00
You've Been Framed 5.35 Film: Back to the
Future Part II (1989) 7.40 Film: The Scorpion
King (2002) 9.30 Film: Van Helsing (2004)ITV3
5.55 Inspector Morse 8.00 Rosemary & Thyme
9.00 Midsummers Murders. A commune leader is
killed. Last in the series. 11.00 Murder in
SuburbiaITV4
11.00 Live Indian Premier League Cricket.
Deccan Chargers v Rajasthan Royals and
Kochi Tuskers Kerala v Royal Challengers
Bangalore. 7.30 British Touring Car
Championship Highlights 9.00 Jean-Claude
Van Damme: Behind Closed Doors 10.00
Ultimate Force 11.40 Film: Death Wish V: The
Face of Death (1994)BBC THREE
7.00 The Real Hustle: Celebrity Scammers
7.30 Doctor Who 9.10 Film: Legally Blonde
(2001) 10.40 Russell Howard's Good News
Extra 11.25 Family GuyBBC FOUR
7.00 Yellowstone 8.00 Al Murray's German
Adventure 9.00 Spiral 10.50 Twenty Twelve
11.20 Room at the TopE4
1.25 Hollyoaks 4.00 Make It or Break It 5.00
Friends 6.00 Glee 7.00 The Big Bang Theory
7.35 How I Met Your Mother 8.55 Friends 10.00
The Idiot AwardsFILM4
3.00 The Duellists (1977) 5.00 A Matter of Life
and Death (1946) 7.00 Edward Scissorhands
(1990) 9.00 This Is England (2006) Shane
Meadows' drama set in the 1980s, starring
Thomas Turgoose, Stephen Graham and Jo
Hartley. 11.00 Oldboy (2003)**CSI: NY**

Channel 5, 9.10pm

The team investigates a series of shootings at a nightclub, where a bartender and two patrons were executed by a hitman, who then proceeded to kidnap a fourth victim. Hawes is stunned when the abducted woman is revealed to be Camille Jordanson, a childhood friend who has become embroiled in a messy counterfeit pill scheme, and seems to have made a few enemies in the criminal underworld. Guest starring singer Ne-Yo, alongside Gary Sinise, Sela Ward, Carmine Giovinazzo, Anna Belknap, AJ Buckley, Hill Harper, Eddie Cahill, Lesley Ann Brandt and Brandon Scott.

6.00 Breakfast. 8.00 Formula 1: The Malaysian Grand Prix – Qualifying. Live coverage of the battle for pole position. 10.15 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 Great British Menu. (R) 12.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather. 12.15 Football Focus. 1.00 The Grand National. 5.10 BBC News; Regional News; Weather. 5.30 All New Total Wipeout: Celebrity Special.

6.30 So You Think You Can Dance. The remaining dancers try to impress at Choreography Camp, before judges Nigel Lythgoe, Arlene Phillips, Louise Redknapp and Sisco Gomez reveal who will appear in the live shows.

7.30 The National Lottery: Secret Fortune. Two workmates take part in the high-tension quiz show presented by Nick Knowles in which contestants have the opportunity to win £100,000.

8.20 Casualty. Jay struggles to cope with work as he returns from his operation.

9.10 Live at the Apollo. With Michael McIntyre, Rich Hall and Rhod Gilbert. (R)

9.55 BBC News; Weather.
10.15 Match of the Day. Including highlights of Manchester United v Fulham; National Lottery Update.

11.35 The Football League Show; Weatherview.

1.00 BBC News.

6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 11.30 Golf: The Masters. 12.30 The Sky at Night. (R) 12.50 Film: Space Camp. (1986) Children's sci-fi adventure, starring Kate Capshaw. 2.30 Flog It! 3.30 Escape to the Country. (R) 3.30 Final Score. 5.15 The Big Flitter: The Grand National on Film. 5.45 Coast. (R)

6.00 Dad's Army. The platoon helps a lady farmer. (R)

6.30 Highlights from the Lambing Shed. Kate Humble and Adam Henson present a look back over the week of Lambing Live, tracing the highs and lows of the season with the Marston family in Cumbria. Last in the series.

7.30 Goldie's Band: By Royal Appointment. The group finishes weeks of intensive masterclasses and musical workshops with a performance at Buckingham Palace in the presence of Prince Harry. Last in the series.

8.30 Live Golf: The Masters. Hazel Irvine introduces coverage of the third day from the Augusta National in Georgia, where the first Major of the year continues. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

12.00 Grand National Re-Run. 12.30 Later with Jools Holland. (R) 1.35 Film: Between. (2005) Thriller, with Poppy Montgomery.

6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. 7.25 CITV. 9.25 Coronation Street. 11.45 This Morning: Saturday. 12.50 Monk. 1.50 ITV News; Weather. 2.05 You've Been Framed! (R) 2.35 Film: Catwoman. (2004) Superhero adventure, starring Halle Berry. 4.30 The Nation's Favourite Abba Song. The group's most popular hits, as voted for by the British public. (R)

6.00 Regional Programmes.

6.15 ITV News; Weather. 6.30 New You've Been Framed! Featuring a lizard with an attitude problem.

7.00 FILM: Mamma Mia! (2008) Premiere. A bride asks three of her mother's old flames to her wedding to learn which one is her father. Musical comedy featuring Abba songs, with Meryl Streep, Pierce Brosnan.

9.10 When Piers Met Andrew Lloyd Webber. The award-winning composer talks at his villa in Majorca about his private life and coming to terms with cancer, and Piers Morgan also follows him at work in London's West End.

10.25 ITV News; Weather.

10.25 FILM: Knocked Up. (2007) Romantic comedy, starring Seth Rogen, Katherine Heigl and Paul Rudd.

12.45 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.50 Swings. (R) 3.35 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 The Hoobs. (R) 7.00 The Track and Field Show. (R) 7.25 The Grid. 7.55 The Morning Line. 8.50 T4: Friends. (R) 9.20 T4. 12.45 Source Code: T4 Movie Special. 9.50 T4: Friends. (R) 10.20 T4: Glee. 11.20 T4: Great British Hairdresser. 12.25 T4: The Big Bang Theory. 12.50 T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) 12.00 That Paralympic Show. 1.55 Channel 4 Racing. 3.25 The Secret Supper Club. 4.00 Come Dine with Me. (R) 4.30 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.00 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.35 Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.05 Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.35 Channel 4 News.

7.05 4thought.it.

7.10 River Cottage Every Day. Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall bakes home-made bread. (R)

8.10 Seven Ages of Britain. The sixth age of Britain, from 1350 to 1500AD. (R)

9.10 FILM: Transporter 3. (2008) Premiere. An underworld courier must transport the kidnapped daughter of a crooked politician across Europe. Action thriller sequel, starring Jason Statham and Natalya Rudakova.

11.10 Stand Up for the Week. Satirical comedy show, hosted by Kevin Bridges.

12.00 Film: The Untouchables. (1987) Gangster thriller, starring Kevin Costner. 2.05 Sex in the 80s: The Story of Club 18-30. (R) 3.00 Privileged. (R) 4.35 Ugly Betty. (R) 5.20 Countdown. (R)

6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 The Family Recipe. (R) 10.05 The Gadget Show. (R) 11.05 Emergency Bikers. (R) 12.05 Megastuctures: 747 Demolition. (R) 1.10 Film: The Battle at Apache Pass. (1952) Western, with Jeff Chandler. 2.50 Film: Vegas Vacation. (1997) Comedy, starring Chevy Chase. 4.35 News Weekend. 4.45 Film: The Cowboys. (1972) Western adventure, starring John Wayne.

7.15 NCIS. A man is found dead in a taxi. Drama, with Mark Harmon (R)

8.10 CSI: Grissom's Greatest. Investigations at a pottery store murder scene provide the team with clues to an unsolved kidnapping that took place 20 years previously. Drama, starring William Petersen. (R)

9.10 CSI: NY. Three people are executed by a hitman at a nightclub, and with the life of a kidnapped woman hanging in the balance, the team tries to track down the killer. Guest starring Ne-Yo.

10.10 CSI: Miami. A bride is shot dead during her elaborate wedding ceremony. (R)

11.10 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. A hunter is found mauled by a bear. (R)

12.10 SuperCasino. 4.00 Animal Rescue Squad. (R) 4.10 Nick's Quest. (R) 5.00 Hana's Helper. (R) 5.10 The Milkshake! Show. (R) 5.35 Thomas & Friends. (R) 5.45 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

ITV2
4.30 Harry Hill's TV Burp Compilation 5.00 You've Been Framed 5.35 Film: Back to the Future Part II (1989) 7.40 Film: The Scorpion King (2002) 9.30 Film: Van Helsing (2004)

ITV3
5.55 Inspector Morse 8.00 Rosemary & Thyme 9.00 Midsummers Murders. A commune leader is killed. Last in the series. 11.00 Murder in Suburbia

ITV4
11.00 Live Indian Premier League Cricket. Deccan Chargers v Rajasthan Royals and Kochi Tuskers Kerala v Royal Challengers Bangalore. 7.30 British Touring Car Championship Highlights 9.00 Jean-Claude Van Damme: Behind Closed Doors 10.00 Ultimate Force 11.40 Film: Death Wish V: The Face of Death (1994)

BBC THREE
7.00 The Real Hustle: Celebrity Scammers 7.30 Doctor Who 9.10 Film: Legally Blonde (2001) 10.40 Russell Howard's Good News Extra 11.25 Family Guy

BBC FOUR
7.00 Yellowstone 8.00 Al Murray's German Adventure 9.00 Spiral 10.50 Twenty Twelve 11.20 Room at the Top

E4
1.25 Hollyoaks 4.00 Make It or Break It 5.00 Friends 6.00 Glee 7.00 The Big Bang Theory 7.35 How I Met Your Mother 8.55 Friends 10.00 The Idiot Awards

FILM4
3.00 The Duellists (1977) 5.00 A Matter of Life and Death (1946) 7.00 Edward Scissorhands (1990) 9.00 This Is England (2006) Shane Meadows' drama set in the 1980s, starring Thomas Turgoose, Stephen Graham and Jo Hartley. 11.00 Oldboy (2003)

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BBC2, 7.00pm

The opening Major of the year reaches the final day at the Augusta National in Georgia, where the coveted Green Jacket will be awarded. Phil Mickelson showed his nerve last year by not registering a single bogey to complete his third five-under-par round of 67 in four days and it was enough for him to win this title for the third time. Lee Westwood finished three shots behind in second place and Anthony Kim one stroke further back in third following an outstanding seven-under-par concluding round of 65. Hazel Irvine hosts. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 8.00 Formula 1: The Malaysian Grand Prix Live. The second race of the season (Start-time 9.00am). 11.15 Country Tracks. 12.15 The Politics Show. 1.15 The Story of Valsalvi. 1.45 Formula 1: The Malaysian Grand Prix. 3.45 Escape to the Country. 4.30 Points of View. 4.45 Songs of Praise. 5.30 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

6.00 Regional Programme. 6.30 **The Boat That Guy** Built. Guy Martin shows off the renovated boat at a party. Last in the series. (R)

7.00 Countryfile. Matt Baker attends the opening of the trout season on the River Itchen in Hampshire, while Ellie Harrison discovers the many varieties of wildlife that live on the river's banks.

8.00 Antiques Roadshow. The experts return to Swindon's Museum of Steam.

9.00 Waking the Dead. Part one of two. Boyd re-opens the first case he ever worked on.

10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

10.25 Match of the Day 2. Blackpool v Arsenal and Aston Villa v Newcastle United.

11.25 FILM: The Hunted. (2003) Action thriller, starring Tommy Lee Jones and Benicio Del Toro; Weatherview.

12.55 Sign Zone: MasterChef. (R) 1.55 Holby City. (R) 2.55 Men of Rock. (R) 3.55 BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 7.35 Match of the Day. (R) 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. 10.00 Something for the Weekend. 11.30 MasterChef. (R) 12.30 Priceless Antiques Roadshow. (R) 1.00 EastEnders. 2.55 Artistic Gymnastics. 5.30 Flog It! Items are valued in Yeovil, Somerset, and Paul Martin visits a local maltings. (R)

6.00 The Truth About Lions. Jonathan Scott and Professor Craig Packer conclude their investigation into the creature's social habits and consider the challenges the big cats face for survival. (R)

7.00 Live Golf: The Masters. The opening Major of the year reaches the final day at the Augusta National in Georgia, where the coveted Green Jacket will be awarded.

12.00 Frank Skinner's Opinionated. Greg Davies and Victoria Coren join the comedian's news stories. (R) 12.30 Film: Roger Dodger. (2002) A manipulative womaniser trying to regain some self-esteem gives his nephew a few pointers in the art of seduction. Black comedy drama, starring Campbell Scott, Jessie Eisenberg and Isabella Rossellini. 2.10 BBC News. 3.55 The Super League Show. Action from the latest matches, including Huddersfield Giants v Warrington Wolves, Hull Kingston Rovers v Leeds Rhinos and Castleford Tigers v Salford City Reds. 4.25 Close.

ITV1

6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. 7.25 CITV. 9.25 May the Best House Win. (R) 10.25 House Gift. (R) 11.30 This Morning: Sunday. 12.30 Dinner Date. (R) 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.35 Film: Columbus: Uneasy Lies the Crown. (1990) Crime drama, with Peter Falk. 3.35 Abba: The Mamma Mia! Story. (R) 4.35 Midsomer Murders. (R)

6.35 Regional Programmes. 6.45 ITV News; Weather.

7.00 The Cube. A PE teacher takes on the challenge, aiming to complete tasks within the confines of a large transparent cube to win a jackpot of £250,000. Hosted by Phillip Schofield.

8.00 Lewis. The detective investigates when a female bishop visiting St Gerard's College is found dead after drinking poisoned wine. Guest starring Sian Phillips and Ronald Pickup.

10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather.

10.15 FILM: Atonement. (2007) A 13-year-old girl accuses her sister's lover of a crime he did not commit, with tragic repercussions. Romantic period drama, starring Keira Knightley and James McAvoy.

12.25 Premiership Rugby Union. 1.10 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.00 Film: The Fog. (1980) Horror, starring Adrienne Barbeau. 3.30 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4

6.05 Sali Mali. (R) 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 The Hoobs. (R) 7.00 Freesports on 4. 7.25 Crunchnite. 7.50 T4: Friends. (R) 8.20 T4: Friends. (R) 8.45 T4: Hollyoaks. 11.20 T4: Friends. (R) 11.55 T4: Glee. (R) 12.50 T4: The Simpsons. (R) 1.25 T4: The Simpsons. (R) 1.55 Jamie's 30 Minute Meals. (R) 2.25 Jamie's 30 Minute Meals. (R) 2.55 Jamie's 30 Minute Meals. (R) 3.30 Jamie's 30 Minute Meals. (R) 4.00 Jamie's 30 Minute Meals. (R) 4.30 Deal or No Deal. 5.30 Time Team.

6.30 Channel 4 News.

6.55 4thoughtv.

7.00 Come Dine with Me. A garage manager competes against a TV cameraman, a man who works in telesales and a charity worker as the dinner party challenge heads to Swansea.

8.00 Civilization: Is the West History? Niall Ferguson analyses how the West's work ethic has changed. Last in the series.

9.00 Country House Rescue. Ruth Watson visits a Montessori school on the outskirts of Watford.

10.00 FILM: Wedding Crashers. (2005) Comedy, starring Owen Wilson and Vince Vaughn.

Channel 5

6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig. 6.05 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 6.15 Fifi and the Flowertots. (R) 6.25 Fireman Sam. (R) 6.40 Miss Spider's Sunny Patch Friends. (R) 6.50 The Beeps. (R) 7.00 Mo. Mao. (R) 7.10 Chirio. (R) 7.15 Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs. (R) 7.30 Noddy in Toyland. (R) 7.40 Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) 7.45 Igam Ogam. (R) 8.00 Little Princess. (R) 8.10 Hana's Helpline. (R) 8.20 The Adventures of Bottie Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) 8.35 Family! (R) 8.45 Rupert Bear. (R) 9.00 Olivia. (R) 9.15 The Mr Men Show. (R) 9.30 Gerald McBoing Boing. (R) 10.00 Chinese Food in Minutes. 10.15 OK! TV Sunday. 11.15 Family Food Fight. (R) 11.45 Ice Road Truckers. (R) 12.45 Tsunami: British Search & Rescue. (R) 1.50 Film: You Got Served. (2004) Premiere, Drama, starring Marques Houston. 3.40 Film: High School Musical 3: Senior Year. (2008) Teen musical sequel, starring Zac Efron. 5.50 Film: News Weekend.

6.00 FILM: Mr Deeds. (2002) Romantic comedy remake, starring Adam Sandler.

7.40 FILM: Hellboy. (2004) Comic-book action fantasy, starring Ron Perlman.

10.00 The Walking Dead.

11.30 FILM: Thir13en Ghosts. (2001)

1.15 SuperCasino. 4.00 Animal Rescue Squad. (R) 4.10 UEFA Europa League Highlights. 5.00 Hana's Helpline. (R) 5.10 The Milkshake! Show. (R) 5.35 Thomas & Friends. (R) 5.45 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

Digital

ITV2
2.30 Film: The Scorpion King (2002) 4.15 The Only Way Is Essex. 5.45 Film: Back to the Future Part III (1990) 8.00 Kerry Katona – The Next Chapter. 9.00 Bendirrom 10.00 The Only Way Is Essex. 10.45 Film: Batman Begins (2005)

ITV3

3.30 Film: City of Angels (1998) 5.40 Agatha Christie's Poirot. 8.00 Pierce Morgan's Life Stories: Susan Boyle. 9.00 Film: Ray (2004)

ITV4

11.00 Live Indian Premier League Cricket. Delhi Daredevils v Mumbai Indians and Pune Warriors v Kings XI Punjab. 8.00 Premiership Rugby Union. 9.00 Film: US Marshals (1998) 11.40 Jean-Claude Van Damme: Behind Closed Doors

BBC THREE

7.00 Formula 1: The Malaysian Grand Prix Highlights. 8.00 Top Gear 9.00 Police Academy UK 10.00 Family Guy. 10.45 American Dad! 11.30 White Van Man

BBC FOUR

7.00 The Sky at Night. 8.00 The Space Shuttle: A Horizon Guide. 9.00 Storyville – Knocking on Heaven's Door. 10.00 Destination Titan. 11.00 The First Men in the Moon

E4

3.55 Film: The Wedding Planner (2001) 6.00 Friends. 7.00 90210. 8.00 Friends. 9.00 Film: The Full Monty (1997) 10.45 Being Erica. 11.45 Film: Sleeping with the Enemy (1991)

FILM4

2.55 My Neighbour Totoro (1988) 4.45 4Films For 4.50 Paper Moon (1973) 6.55 Romancing the Stone (1984) 9.00 The French Connection (1971). Oscar-winning thriller, starring Gene Hackman, Roy Scheider and Fernando Rey. 11.05 Brokeback Mountain (2005)

star extra TRAVEL

KINGS OF LEON

IN CONCERT AT THE RICOH ARENA, COVENTRY

DAY EXCURSION, 30 MAY 2011, FROM £82.50pp

Kings of Leon have announced details of a series of huge headline outdoor shows next Summer including an eagerly anticipated gig in Coventry.

Their highly acclaimed fifth album 'Come Around Sundown' became their third consecutive album to debut at number 1 when it topped the UK album charts on release, claiming both the biggest week one sales of the year and the biggest ever first week digital sales along the way.

Like last year's Hyde Park show, their forth-coming December 2010 arena shows sold out in seconds and the Kings of Leon's Summer 2011 concerts are set to be one of the highlights of next year's live calendar.

**Price includes:**

- A General Admission ticket with a face value of £45 for an evening performance of Kings of Leon Live 2011 at the Ricoh Arena, Coventry on the 30 May 2011
- Return coach travel from selected local departure points

To book call: **01524 37500** quote WOL
or book online at www.starextra.concert.travel

Organised by Omega Holidays, ABTA V4782. Subject to availability.

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LONDON Theatre Breaks

Coach inclusive breaks Selected weekend departures from £124.95 Saturday Night Theatre from £129.95 Dine and Dance

Unbeatable value two-day dine and dance theatre break (dinner, bed and breakfast) for the matinee performance or Saturday night theatre weekend breaks (bed and breakfast) with a superb choice of West End shows. The price includes a theatre ticket, overnight stay in a four-star outer London hotel, with full English breakfast and free time in London on the Sunday. Choose your pick-up point from Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

Two-day Theatre Double Bill and two-day Friday Night Theatre breaks also available

Rail inclusive breaks Departures most weekends from £129.95

Catch the Theatre Express and enjoy a super two-day weekend break in the capital from a choice of London hotels. Your ticket is for a Saturday evening performance and rail travel is standard class with the option to upgrade. Depart Saturday evening/early afternoon from Birmingham New Street, Shrewsbury, Stafford, Telford or Wolverhampton, returning on the Sunday afternoon/early evening to give plenty of free time for shopping and sightseeing in London. You may also stay on the Friday evening for an additional cost.

Self-drive breaks Departures most weekends from £99.95

The self-drive break is for one evening staying either on the Friday night or Saturday night in a four-star hotel. For Friday night stays you will have a top price ticket for the Friday evening performance and for Saturday night stays you have a choice of price categories for the Saturday evening performance. There is also the option to stay extra nights for a reasonable supplement (subject to availability).

Please note: the "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details. Single room supplements apply.

For a brochure please call (01902) 319999 (Mon to Fri, 9am to 5pm), email starextra@expressandstar.co.uk (please include your name and address) or go to www.expressandstar.com/starextratravel

Please read brochure/web page for full information plus terms and conditions



Monday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Animal 24:7. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Filthy Rotten Scoundrels. (R) 11.45 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Weakest Link. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 6.55 Referendum Broadcast on Behalf of the No Campaign. (R) 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 Bang Goes the Theory. 8.00 News; Regional News. 8.00 Entertainment. 8.30 Life Stories. 9.00 Panorama. 9.00 Waking the Dead. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 A Question of Sport. 11.05 Late Kick Off. 11.35 Film: The Walker. (2007); Weatherviews. 1.25 Sign Zone; MasterChef. (R) 2.20 Arctic with Bruce Parry. (R) 3.20 Baking Made Easy. (R) 3.50 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 6.55 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.35 Meerkat Manor. (R) 12.00 Meerkat Manor. (R) 12.25 Animal Park. (R) 12.55 Diagnosis Murder. (R) 1.40 To Buy or Not to Buy? 2.25 Restoration Roadshow. (R) 2.30 Flit It! (R) 3.40 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 4.20 Pointless. 5.10 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. (R) 5.55 Referendum Broadcast on Behalf of the No Campaign. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Great British Menu. 7.00 This Is Britain. (R) 8.00 Railway Walks. (R) 8.30 Raymond Blanc's Kitchen Secrets. 9.00 A Home in the Country. 10.00 National Lottery Buzzwords. (R) 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Wonders of the Solar System. (R) 12.20 The Brain: A Secret History. 1.20 BBC News. 3.50 Close. 4.00 BBC Learning Zone. (R)

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 The Alan Titchmarsh Show. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Midmomers. (R) 5.00 Britain's Best Dish. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 6.50 Referendum Broadcast on Behalf of the No Campaign. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Grimefighters. 8.00 Countrywise. 9.00 Smugglers. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: Walking Tall. (2004) 12.05 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.10 Crossing Jordan. 2.55 ITV News. 5.30 ITV News. 5.50 ITV News.

Channel 4 6.00 Max Bear. 6.20 The Hoobs. (R) 6.45 The Hoobs. (R) 7.15 Freshly Squeezed. 7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.05 Frasier. 8.35 Friends. 9.05 Wife Swap USA. (R) 10.00 Brothers & Sisters. 11.00 A Place by the Sea. 12.00 Channel 4 News Summary. 12.05 Great British Brands. (R) 12.20 River Cottage Bites. (R) 12.25 Film: The War of the Worlds. (1951) 1.20 Cookery School. 1.30 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Fern. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 Referendum Broadcast on Behalf of the Yes Campaign. 8.00 Superzize vs Superskinny. 9.00 Katie: My Beautiful Friends. 10.00 Campus. 11.05 Pete Verus Life. 11.40 School of Comedy. 12.00 Hollyoaks. 12.30 Music on 4: Popstars. 1.15 Freeports on 4. (R) 140 The Grid. (R) 2.05 KOTV Boxing Weekly. 2.30 Salming. (R) 3.00 ITU Triathlon. (R) 3.50 AV Beach Volleyball. (R) 4.45 Crimetime. (R) 5.15 Full Metal Challenge. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.05 Bridezillas. (R) 12.05 The Family Recipe. (R) 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.20 House. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 The Vanessa Show. 3.05 Chinese Food in Minutes. 3.10 Film: Mission: Impossible: The Ghost Protocol. 7.00 Hollyoaks. 5.00 5 News at 5; Weather. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.25 OK! TV. 7.00 5 News at 7. 7.25 Referendum Broadcast on Behalf of the Yes Campaign. 7.30 Extraordinary Dogs; 5 News. 8.00 Tanakhamun: The Mystery Revealed; (R) 5 News at 9.00 CSI: Miami. 10.00 Hollyoaks. 11.00 The Family Meal. 10.55 CSI: NY. (R) 11.50 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. 12.15 SuperCasino. 4.00 Meals in Moments. (R) 4.10 How Not to Decorate. (R) 4.55 Rough Guide to Adventures. (R) 5.10 Wildlife SOS. (R) 5.35 House Doctor. (R)

Tuesday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Animal 24:7. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Filthy Rotten Scoundrels. (R) 11.45 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Weakest Link. (R) 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 6.55 Referendum Broadcast on Behalf of the Yes Campaign. (R) 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 Bang Goes the Theory. 8.00 News; Regional News. 8.00 Entertainment. 8.30 Life Stories. 9.00 Panorama. 9.00 Waking the Dead. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 See You in Court. 11.25 Love Me, Love My Face; Weatherviews. 11.35 Film: Who Does What? (R) 2.30 Great British Railway Journeys. (R) 3.00 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 6.55 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.35 Film: Oh, Mr Porter! (1937) Comedy, with Will Hay. 12.55 Diagnosis Murder. (R) 1.40 To Buy or Not to Buy. 2.25 Restoration Roadshow. (R) 2.30 Flit It! (R) 3.40 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 4.20 Pointless. 5.10 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. (R) 5.55 Referendum Broadcast on Behalf of the No Campaign. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Great British Menu. 7.00 Coast. (R) 8.00 Britain's Next Big Thing. 9.00 Filthy Cities. 10.00 Later Live - with Jo Whiley. 11.00 Life Stories. 12.00 Wonders of the Solar System. (R) 12.20 The Brain: A Secret History. 1.20 BBC News. 3.50 Close. 4.00 BBC Learning Zone. (R)

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 The Alan Titchmarsh Show. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Midmomers. (R) 5.00 Britain's Best Dish. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 6.50 Referendum Broadcast on Behalf of the No Campaign. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Grimefighters. 8.00 Countrywise. 9.00 Smugglers. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: Walking Tall. (2004) 12.05 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.10 Crossing Jordan. 2.55 ITV News. 5.30 ITV News.

Channel 4 6.00 The Treacle People. (R) 6.10 Max Bear. 6.20 The Hoobs. (R) 6.45 The Hoobs. (R) 7.15 Freshly Squeezed. 7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.05 Frasier. 8.35 Friends. 9.05 Wife Swap USA. (R) 10.00 Brothers & Sisters. 10.55 The Restoration Man. (R) 12.00 Channel 4 News Summary. 12.05 Great British Brands. (R) 12.15 River Cottage Bites. (R) 12.20 Film: Invasion of the Bionic Women. (1999) 1.20 Cookery School. 1.30 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Fern. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 Referendum Broadcast on Behalf of the Yes Campaign. 8.00 Superzize vs Superskinny. 9.00 Katie: My Beautiful Friends. 10.00 Campus. 11.05 Pete Verus Life. 11.40 School of Comedy. 12.00 Hollyoaks. 12.30 Music on 4: Popstars. 1.15 Freeports on 4. (R) 140 The Grid. (R) 2.05 KOTV Boxing Weekly. 2.30 Salming. (R) 3.00 ITU Triathlon. (R) 3.50 AV Beach Volleyball. (R) 4.45 Crimetime. (R) 5.15 Full Metal Challenge. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.05 Bridezillas. (R) 12.05 The Family Recipe. (R) 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.20 House. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 The Vanessa Show. 3.05 Chinese Food in Minutes. 3.10 Film: Mission: Impossible: The Ghost Protocol. 7.00 Hollyoaks. 5.00 5 News at 5; Weather. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.25 OK! TV. 7.00 5 News at 7. 7.25 Referendum Broadcast on Behalf of the Yes Campaign. 7.30 Extraordinary Dogs; 5 News. 8.00 Tanakhamun: The Mystery Revealed; (R) 5 News at 9.00 CSI: Miami. 10.00 Hollyoaks. 11.00 The Family Meal. 10.55 CSI: NY. (R) 11.50 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. 12.15 SuperCasino. 4.00 Meals in Moments. (R) 4.10 How Not to Decorate. (R) 4.55 Rough Guide to Adventures. (R) 5.10 Wildlife SOS. (R) 5.35 House Doctor. (R)

Wednesday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Animal 24:7. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Filthy Rotten Scoundrels. (R) 11.45 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Weakest Link. (R) 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 6.55 Referendum Broadcast on Behalf of the Yes Campaign. (R) 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 DIY SOS: The Big Build; BBC News; Regional News. 8.30 Life of Riley. 9.00 Emmerdale. 10.00 Later Live - with Jo Whiley. 11.00 Life Stories. 12.00 Wonders of the Solar System. (R) 12.20 The Brain: A Secret History. 1.20 BBC News. 3.50 Close. 4.00 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 6.55 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.35 Film: Just My Luck. (1997) Comedy, starring Norman Wisdom. 1.00 Diagnosis Murder. (R) 1.45 To Buy or Not to Buy. 2.25 Restoration Roadshow. (R) 2.30 Flit It! (R) 3.45 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 4.20 Pointless. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. (R) 5.55 Eggheads. 6.30 Great British Menu. 7.00 Shanties and Sea Songs with Gareth Malone. (R) 8.00 The Animal's Guide to Britain. 9.00 A History of Celtic Britain. 10.00 Rhod Gilbert's Work Experience. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Filthy Cities. (R) 12.00 BBC News. 4.00 BBC Learning Zone. (R)

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 The Alan Titchmarsh Show. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Midmomers. (R) 5.00 Britain's Best Dish. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 Emmerdale. 7.30 Children of the Tsunami: Tonight. 8.00 Emmerdale. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Paul O'Grady Live. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Benidorm. (R) 12.30 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.35 Children of the Tsunami: Tonight. 3.00 ITV News Headlines. 4.35 Caroline Quentin: A Passage Through India. (R) 12.30 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.35 Children of the Tsunami: Tonight. 3.00 ITV News Headlines. 4.35 Jeremy Kyle: Morning Surgery. (R) 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.10 The Treacle People. (R) 6.20 The Hoobs. (R) 6.45 The Hoobs. (R) 7.15 Freshly Squeezed. 7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.05 Frasier. 8.35 Friends. (R) 9.05 Wife Swap USA. (R) 10.00 Brothers & Sisters. 10.55 The Restoration Man. (R) 12.00 Channel 4 News Summary. 12.05 Great British Brands. (R) 12.15 River Cottage Bites. (R) 12.20 Film: Destination Moon. (1950) Sci-fi adventure, starring John Archer. 2.10 Cookery School. 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Fern. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4throughtv.itv. 8.00 Vacation. 8.30 Supercripsters: Waste Not Want Not. 9.00 Jamie's Dream School. 10.00 Desperate Housewives. 11.05 The Big C. 11.40 Gervais Show. 12.00 Coronation Street. 12.30 Music on 4: Abbey Road. 1.15 Hollyoaks. 2.10 Hollyoaks. 3.00 Hollyoaks. 4.00 Hollyoaks. 5.00 Hollyoaks. 6.00 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Hollyoaks. 8.00 Hollyoaks. 9.00 Hollyoaks. 10.00 Hollyoaks. 11.00 Hollyoaks. 12.00 Hollyoaks. 13.00 Hollyoaks. 14.00 Hollyoaks. 15.00 Hollyoaks. 16.00 Hollyoaks. 17.00 Hollyoaks. 18.00 Hollyoaks. 19.00 Hollyoaks. 20.00 Hollyoaks. 21.00 Hollyoaks. 22.00 Hollyoaks. 23.00 Hollyoaks. 24.00 Hollyoaks. 25.00 Hollyoaks. 26.00 Hollyoaks. 27.00 Hollyoaks. 28.00 Hollyoaks. 29.00 Hollyoaks. 30.00 Hollyoaks. 31.00 Hollyoaks. 32.00 Hollyoaks. 33.00 Hollyoaks. 34.00 Hollyoaks. 35.00 Hollyoaks. 36.00 Hollyoaks. 37.00 Hollyoaks. 38.00 Hollyoaks. 39.00 Hollyoaks. 40.00 Hollyoaks. 41.00 Hollyoaks. 42.00 Hollyoaks. 43.00 Hollyoaks. 44.00 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Boost for town and city misers

AS MOTORING costs continue to soar, more and more of us are looking to cut down on how much goes out of our bank account on our choice of four wheels.

This is particularly the case for town and city dwellers.

Many are realising that running a medium to large-sized car is all well and good.

But when its main job is to ferry the children to school, nip a few miles into the office or make a trip to the supermarket, then capacious space with its (usual) fairly high mpg is a luxury many now just cannot afford – or would rather spend the money on other things. So no wonder

small cars
s a l e s
a r e



By Sharon Walters

going up and the marketplace is becoming more competitive. High up in the popularity stakes here has been the Hyundai i10, the biggest seller for the Korean marque, which will no doubt do even better with its recent refresh.

It now looks even better with improved ultra-modern engines, better fuel economy, lower emissions and stronger performance.

And that's why it has another award to its collection – winning Best City Car in the CarBuyer.co.uk awards.

The CarBuyer.co.uk judging panel reviewed and rated every new model on sale, focusing on performance, safety, running costs, mpg, owner satisfaction and reliability.

Dan Strong, the editor of CarBuyer.co.uk, explained why the Hyundai i10 was a clear winner in the city car category: "A recent redesign means that the Hyundai i10 looks better than ever."

Practical

"It has always been affordable, economical to run, fun to drive and very practical, but now it's stylish and well made too. For our money, there's no better city car around."

"The new Hyundai i10 represents a big step up in terms of quality and desirability, yet it remains great value for money."

"What's more, the revised model now comes with the company's triple-care warranty, which ensures peace of mind by offering unlimited mileage cover, free car health checks and roadside assistance for five years."

"There's also a fuel efficient 'BLUE' model – the company's first car to dip below the 99g/km CO2 barrier – making it free from road tax and the congestion charge in London. Don't be fooled by the compact dimensions, the versatile interior means you really can transport a growing family and all that travels with it."

BUMPER TO BUMPER

Car: Hyundai i10 Blue

Tested: 998cc, three-cylinder petrol, five-speed manual gearbox, front-wheel drive

Price: £9,195

On sale: Now

Power/torque: 68bhp @ 6,200rpm/ 70lb ft @ 3,500rpm

Top speed: 93mph

Acceleration: 0-62mph in 14.8sec

Fuel economy: 67.3mpg (combined)

CO2 emissions: 99g/km

VED band: A (£0)



The plastic trim is fine but matches the price

go that extra bit when needed. You do get Intelligent Stop and Go, low rolling resistance tyres, an alternator management system and a gear-shift indicator which all help to keep costs to the petrol station down.

Where you realise the car is "cheap" is the standard of finish inside and items that we have come to expect higher up the market – such as a remote for the central locking, now that was a step back in time. Having said that the plastic trim is fine for the money.

Boot

You can get four people in without any squashing but don't expect to carry much in the boot except school and supermarket bags.

Hyundai has also put its latest 1,248cc four-cylinder petrol unit into the i10. That has 85bhp to give you a tad more oomph, 105g/km emissions and combined mpg of 61.4 for the five-speed manual version or 51.4 for the four-speed automatic.

The i10 starts at £8,195 on the road.



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02 Reg	BMW 116TI SE COMPACT	Silver, Climate Control, Alloys, CD, FSH	£3695
56 Reg	CITROEN XSARA PICASSO 2.0 HDI MPV	Mauve, Diesel, A/C, CD	£4475
54 Reg	CHRYSLER PT CRUISER 2.2 CRD TOURER	Blue, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, 51k	£4195
07 Reg	FIAT GRANDE PUNTO 1.2 ACTIVE	Silver, A/C, CD, 3-door, FSH, 37k	£3995
03 Reg	FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC	Blue, A/C, Alloys, CD	£2695
55 Reg	FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCI LX ESTATE	Blue, Diesel, A/C, CD, FSH	£3995
05 Reg	FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCI TITANIUM	Blue, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD	£4695
07 Reg	FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC	Blue, A/C, Alloys, CD	£4695
08 Reg	FORD KA 1.3i STYLE	Blue, Colour Coded Bumpers, Low Tax & Insurance, 33k	£5695
06 Reg	FORD MONDEO 1.8 TDCI LX	Bronze, Diesel, A/C, CD, FSH	£4195
08 Reg	FORD MONDEO 1.8 TDCI EDGE	Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH, 68k	£7695
08 Reg	FORD C-MAX 2.0 TDCI ZETEC	MPV Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD	£7695
04 Reg	FORD FOCUS 1.4i	Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD	£3695
03 Reg	JAGUAR X-TYPE 2.0 SPORT	Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD	£4195
02 Reg	LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2.0 TD4 SERENGETI SW	Red, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD	£3695
05 Reg	NISSAN MICRA 1.2 URBIS	CD, Low tax & insurance	£3195
56 Reg	PEUGEOT 207 1.4 SE	Black, A/C, Alloys, CD, 5-door, FSH, 34k	£5495
53 Reg	PEUGEOT 307 2.0 HDI SILVER	Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD	£3195
05 Reg	PEUGEOT 307 1.4 X-LINE	Blue, A/C, Alloys, CD, Silver	£3695
04 Reg	PEUGEOT 307 1.4i	Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH, 45k	£3695
56 Reg	PEUGEOT 407 2.0 HDI SE	Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD	£4695
56 Reg	RENAULT CLIO 1.2 16V EXTREME	Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH	£4195
55 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 DYNAMIQUE	Beige, 2006, A/C, Alloys, CD	£3195
05 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 DYNAMIQUE AUTOMATIC	Silver, Auto, A/C, Alloys, CD, 49k	£3695
55 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.9 DCI DYNAMIQUE	Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD	£3995
08 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.9 DYNAMIQUE AUTOMATIC BLACK	Black, A/C, Alloys, CD, 37k	£5195
04 Reg	RENAULT SCENIC 1.6 DYNAMIQUE MPV	Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD	£3195
04 Reg	RENAULT GRAND SCENIC 1.9 DCI DYNAMIQUE	MPV, Red, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, 7 seater, FSH	£4195
56 Reg	RENAULT GRAND SCENIC 1.9 DYNAMIQUE	MPV Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH	£4695
05 Reg	SKODA SUPERB 1.9 TD ELEGANCE	Gold, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, leather sport seats, FSH	£5695
56 Reg	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.3 CDTI 16V CLUB	Blue, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH	£4695
07 Reg	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.8 LIFE AUTOMATIC	Gold, A/C, CD, FSH, 27k	£5195
06 Reg	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXI	Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, half leather sports seats, FSH	£5695
55 Reg	VAUXHALL TIGRA 1.4 TWINPORT COUPE	Blue, A/C, Alloys, CD, Convertible	£5695
07 Reg	VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.6 CDTI EXCLUSIVE	Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH	£5195
08 Reg	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 VVT EXCLUSIVE	Black, A/C, Alloys, CD, 7 seater, 38k	£5695
08 Reg	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 LIFE MPV	Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, 7 seater, 28k	£5695
55 Reg	VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT 1.9 SE TDI	Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD	£5995
53 Reg	VOLKSWAGEN BEETLE 2.0 S SILVER	A/C, Alloys, CD, Winter Pack, FSH	£4495

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Fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100 km) for the Kia Picanto range are: Urban: 38.7 (7.3) - 49.6 (5.7), Extra Urban: 54.3 (5.2) - 65.7 (4.3), Combined: 47.9 (5.9) - 58.8 (4.8). CO₂ emissions are 137 - 114 g/km. 7 year / 100,000 mile manufacturer's warranty. See your local dealer or visit www.kia.co.uk for full warranty terms and exclusions. Price correct at time of going to press and specification is subject to change without notice. Model shown is 1.0 Picanto Spice Special Edition @ £5,995 On The Road (OTR) including £1,170 trade-in allowance. OTR price includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' Government Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) and Vehicle First Registration Fee. Metallic / mica paint is available for an extra £405 charge. Retail customers only. Subject to availability on vehicles registered between 01 April and 30 June 2011. Offer is not available in conjunction with any other offer. Trade in allowance varies by model/derivative. Terms and conditions apply - please see your local dealer for full details.

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CT200h fuel consumption and CO₂ figures: urban 68.9 mpg (41 L/100km), extra-urban 70.6 mpg (4.0 L/100km), combined 68.9 mpg (41 L/100km). CO₂ emissions combined 94 g/km

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Full-width lounge in extended home

THIS highly individual home is superbly located within a much sought after location and close to woodland.

The interior of 186 Mount Pleasant in Kingswinford has been substantially extended with all rooms being very well proportioned, including a full-width lounge.

Taylors estate agent is marketing the sale of the house known as 'Woodmans Cottage', for offers in the region of £249,950.

Burner

The house itself is slightly elevated with steps providing access to the entrance which has a further door opening to the lounge which measures 18ft 9in x 18ft 4in.

Features include an impressive fireplace with log burner, two upVC double-glazed windows to the front aspect and two radiators.

To the rear is the spacious kitchen and dining area, with dimensions of 20ft 4in x 8ft 10in, comprising two distinct areas.

Firstly, the luxury re-fitted kitchen includes a range of cupboards with worksurfaces incorporating a stainless steel sink drainer unit, a range style cooker, integrated fridge, freezer and



The kitchen includes a range cooker and integrated appliances

dishwasher. The flooring is of a light wood style and a window overlooks the rear garden.

From the first floor landing, doors open to four bedrooms and a family bathroom.

Measuring 15ft 7in x 9ft, the master bedroom has views of the rear garden through windows to the rear and side.

Stairs from here rise to the first floor and there is also access to WC, utility

an arched doorway and a uPVC double-glazed window to the side and measures 17ft 1in x 12ft.

There is also a walk-in wardrobe and



This extended house in Mount Pleasant, Kingswinford is on the market for offers around £249,950

door to an en suite including a shower cubicle with electric shower, pedestal wash basin, WC, and radiator and extractor fan.

The other three bedrooms are also spacious and the fourth includes further fitted wardrobes.

In the main bathroom, which measures 8ft 7in x 7ft 10in, there is a white

suite comprising a white suite with shower cubicle, panelled bath, pedestal wash basin, WC and radiator.

Once outside, the main asphalt driveway offers access to the grounds behind the house which give a secluded aspect to the rear garden.

In the rear garden there is an attractive website at www.taylorsestateagents.co.uk or call 01384 401777.

Andrew Grant



PENZER STREET, KINGSWINFORD
A Well Presented Three Bedroom Semi Detached Residence in a Popular Location.
Reception Hall, Dining Kitchen, Sitting Room, Lounge, Bedroom with En-suite, Two Further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Driveway, Garage and Rear Garden.
Guide Price: £249,950
Contact: Sadie Grant on 01384 370232



ALDERDALE AVENUE, SEDGLEY
A Spacious Five Bedroom Detached Residence With Additional Annex To Side.
Reception hall, dining kitchen, sitting room, lounge, conservatory, five bedrooms, two en-suites, house bathroom, downstairs wc, rear garden, garage converted to storage area and annexe. Annexe: Bathroom, living area, lobby with kitchen area.
Guide Price: £259,950
Contact: Leoni Ready on 01384 370232



ELMWOOD ROAD, WORDSLEY
An Extended and Extremely Well Presented Three Bedroom Detached Residence In A Popular Location.
Reception hall, sitting room, lounge, dining kitchen, conservatory, master bedroom with ensuite, two further bedrooms, family bathroom, driveway, garage, utility and rear garden.
Guide Price: £294,950
Contact: Leoni Ready on 01384 370232



MERRICK CLOSE, HAYLEY GREEN, HALESOWEN
An Immaculately Presented Extended Four Bedroom Link Detached Residence Situated In This Sought After Location.
Enclosed porch, reception hall, cloakroom, sitting room, dining room, conservatory, breakfast kitchen, master bedroom ensuite, three further bedrooms, house bathroom, single garage, front and rear gardens.
Guide Price: £299,950
Contact: Sadie Grant on 01384 370232



LEYS CLOSE, PEDMORE
An Immaculately Presented Executive Detached Residence In A Small Gated Development.
Built approximately five years ago situated in this popular and sought after location. Reception hall, fitted cloakroom, three reception rooms, kitchen, utility, first floor: Four bedrooms, two en-suites, house bathroom, second floor: Bedroom suite including ensuite, dressing room/Gym, double garage, rear garden.
Guide Price: £675,000
Contact: Sadie Grant on 01384 370232



VICARAGE ROAD, WOLLASTON
A Three Bedroom Semi-Detached Residence Situated On A Corner Plot Situated In This Popular Village.
Porch, reception hall, sitting room, dining room, breakfast room, kitchen, landing, three bedrooms, bathroom, front and rear gardens, garage.
Guide Price: £145,000
Contact: Leoni Ready on 01384 370232



BEN NEVIS WAY, STOURBRIDGE
A Three Bedroom Detached Property Situated In A Popular Location.
Reception hall, living room, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, garage, rear and side garden and driveway.
Guide Price: £164,950
Contact: Leoni Ready on 01384 370232



QUEENSWAY, STOURBRIDGE
A Well Presented Three Bedroom Semi Detached Close To Amenities.
Sitting Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Downstairs WC, Study/Family Room, Landing, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Rear Garden.
Guide Price: £134,950
Contact: Leoni Ready on 01384 370232



BANK FARM CLOSE, STOURBRIDGE
An Extended Four Bedroom Semi-Detached Residence Situated In This Popular Location.
Reception hall, fitted cloakroom, sitting room, kitchen with dining area, utility, landing, master bedroom with ensuite, three further bedrooms, house bathroom, front and rear garden.
Guide Price: £225,000
Contact: Leoni Ready on 01384 370232



WESTERN ROAD, STOURBRIDGE
A Victorian End Terrace In The Popular Old Quarter Of Stourbridge Conveniently Situated For Local Amenities.
Reception Hall, Sitting Room, Dining Room/Family Room, Kitchen, Cellar, Bathroom, Master Bedroom with En-suite, Three Further Bedrooms, Separate WC, Rear Garden.
Guide Price: £149,950
Contact: Sadie Grant on 01384 370232



Developer building for a brighter future

THE housing market in the West Midlands received a timely boost recently when one of the region's leading upmarket housebuilders said it would be opening five new sites this year alone.

David Wilson Mercia plans to start work on five new developments comprising 392 new homes before the end of 2011.

The developments have a total sales value of £80 million and provide further evidence that the high end property market in the West

Midlands is likely to outperform some other parts of the country. "Many househunters in the West Midlands think that now is a good time to buy because prices are lower than in 2007 and interest rates are historically low.

Sustain

"We believe this will help sustain the local housing market whatever happens to the national economy," says Steve Barton, sales manager at David Wilson Mercia.

"We would not be making this significant commitment to the market in this area unless we were confident about its prospects in the

medium-term. By building these developments we will be bringing new jobs to the West Midlands.

"We will also be creating well-designed, competitively-priced new homes which local people need."

David Wilson Mercia is currently selling homes at various developments across the Black Country.

Call the sales hotline on 0844 811 3322 open seven days a week from 8am to 9pm or log on to www.dwh.co.uk for more information.



An artist's impression of one of the many new developments being built by David Wilson Mercia in the region

That TLC will pay off when you decide to sell home

IT is vital to ensure your home is in ship shape condition if you are wanting to put it on the market.

With spring in the air, bulbs sprouting and the busiest selling time of the year approaching, now is the optimum time for home movers to put their property on the market.

But in order to achieve the best possible price, it is important to give your property a spring health check and carry out essential repair and maintenance work following the long winter.

The UK provider of instant online quotes for moving services – reallymoving.com – suggests the following tips:

- Check the exterior of your home for cracked brickwork and crumbled cement and repair before moisture has a chance to seep in. Damp can take hold extremely quickly and will be instantly picked up on a Homebuyer survey.

- Check the roof for wind and weather damage. Check for any loose or missing roof tiles. While doing so, keep a sharp eye out for cracks in your roofing felt.

- Go up into the loft. From your loft space, you'll be able to make a second check on the state of the roof, looking out for watermarks on roof timbers and any daylight showing through from above.

- Clean out gutters and downpipes around your home. Clean out blockages in gutters to avoid leaks and while doing so, check for cracks and other damage. To keep the areas around your home safe and looking fresh, clean your paths and patios of algae and other debris.

- In the garden, check wooden sheds and fences. Wind and damp can cause considerable damage to wooden fences and sheds, so treat them with a wood preservative or paint to smarten them up and prevent rotting.

- Clean the patio and outdoor furniture and set them up for entertaining, to present the garden in the best possible light to buyers. Do some basic landscaping repairs on the lawn, shrubbery, and plants and check the exterior doors and windows.

- Care for painted walls. The winter weather may have caused exterior wall paint to flake and even fall off, exposing the brickwork underneath. This can really impact on the overall impression of your property, so it is a good idea to prepare the walls first by washing them down and then repaint.

- Unblock airbricks. Make sure leaves and debris aren't blocking airbricks and vents, which could lead to damp. Remove any obstructions.

- Sweep the chimney. Spring is an excellent time to get your chimney inspected and swept by a chimney sweep, which reduces the risk of fires after heavy winter use and ensures it is safe to use for future residents.



A well cared for home will impress potential buyers

- Adjust central heating to a summer setting to save energy. This is a good time to bleed your radiators to get rid of air pockets, which helps keep the heating system in top condition. Spring is also the perfect time to organise an annual boiler service as well, the details of which you can pass on to the new owners.

Rosemary Rogers, Director, reallymoving.com comments: "A few simple precautions can ensure your property suffers no ill effects from the long winter and is looking in the best possible condition when it goes on the market in the spring."

"Buyers who instruct a surveyor would be in a position to try and negotiate discounts based on repair work which showed up on their report, so a little pre-emptive maintenance will help ensure you get the best possible price for your home."

Lettings hicksadley.com 0121 585 6688

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HALESOWEN, PARK LANE

A large four bed detached family briefly comprising of: Three Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Downstairs WC, Garage and Driveway Parking, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Rear Garden

£650 PCM



HAGLEY, MILL POOL CLOSE

A luxury first floor apartment, recently refurbished and briefly comprising of: Fitted Kitchen, Two Large Bedrooms, Modern Bathroom with Shower, Benefits Include Communal Gardens, Garage En Bloc. Highly Sought After Area. Private Entrance. Fantastic Countryside Views. Not To Be Missed.

£650 PCM



HALESOWEN, SANDERSON PLACE

A brand new unfurnished ground floor apartment, briefly comprising of: Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom with Shower, Two bedrooms, Master with En-Suite, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Parking Space. Viewing Highly Recommended.

£625 PCM



ROWLEY REGIS, BELL END

A well presented unfurnished modern end terraced house, briefly comprising of: Three Bedrooms, Master Room with En-Suite, House Bathroom with Shower, WC, Fitted Kitchen, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Garage and Driveway Parking, Lovely Rear Garden. Convenient for access into Mery Hill, Near to Junction 2

£595 PCM



ROWLEY REGIS, HACKETT ROAD

An unfurnished semi detached family home in a popular location, briefly comprising of: Three Bedrooms, Double Glazing, Garage and Driveway, Spacious Living Room, Dining Kitchen, Guest WC, Bathroom, Front and Rear Gardens and Driveway Parking.

£550 PCM



HALESOWEN, CLENT HOUSE

An unfurnished modern first floor apartment, close to Halesowen Town Centre, briefly comprising of: Two Bedrooms, Modern Kitchen, Two Bathrooms, Spacious Lounge, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Modern Bathroom with Shower, Garage. A Must See Property

£525 PCM



HALESOWEN, GREEN LANE

An unfurnished end terraced house close to all amenities, briefly comprising of: Three Double Bedrooms, Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Utility, Downstairs WC, Off Road Parking at Rear

£500 PCM



WEST BROMWICH, WESTLEY COURT

An unfurnished modern second floor apartment, briefly comprising of: Two bedrooms, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Utility, Double Glazing, Bathroom with Shower, Parking space

£495 PCM



OLDBURY, NEW HENRY STREET

An unfurnished mid terraced house, close to local shops, briefly comprising of: Living Room, Breakfast Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Brand New Bathroom, Front and Rear Gardens and Parking to the rear.

£495 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, WYCHERLEY WAY

A part furnished to suit first floor apartment, on a popular development, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Parking Space.

£475 PCM



ROWLEY REGIS, POWKE LANE

An unfurnished split level flat, close to shops, briefly comprising of: Electric Storage Heating, Fitted Kitchen, Living Room, Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Parking

£475 PCM



HALESOWEN, HAGLEY COURT, HAGLEY ROAD

A beautiful Part furnished ground floor apartment, close to Halesowen town centre, briefly comprises of: Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Spacious Lounge, Communal Garden and Allocated Parking Space

£475 PCM



HALESOWEN, TERRACE STREET

An unfurnished first floor flat offers lovely views, and close to shops, briefly comprising of: Two Bedrooms, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, Bathroom with Shower, Allocated Parking, Gas Central Heating

£450 PCM



HALESOWEN, COCKSHEDS LANE

A furnished to suite first floor flat, briefly comprising of: Two Bedrooms, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Bathroom with Shower, Communal Gardens, and On Road Parking

£450 PCM



HALESOWEN, WHITEHALL COURT

An unfurnished ground floor apartment in a sought after location. Comprising of: One Double Bedroom, Large Living Room, Gas Central Heating Double Glazing, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom with Shower, Communal Gardens and Carport to the rear.

£425 PCM



HALESOWEN, ROOM AT KENT ROAD

A Room only Within a 4 Bed Detached with Use of all Facilities, Bills included and will Suit a Professional Person

£395 PCM



ROMSLEY, ST KENFELS ROAD

A Double Room to Rent in a three bedroom Semi-Detached House in a Sought After Location, the house has Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing and Broadband and Is Inclusive of All Bills

£395 PCM



HALESOWEN, SHORT STREET

A fully furnished double bedroom in a terraced house share home. Gas central heating and double glazing. Two Receptions Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Downstairs WC and Utility, Bathroom with Both Bath and Shower. RENT INCLUDES ALL BILLS.

£385 PCM



HALESOWEN, WILTSHIRE DRIVE

An unfurnished first floor flat, on a popular development, briefly comprising of: Electric Storage Heating, Living Room, Fitted Dining Kitchen, One Double Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Communal Garden, Parking

£375 PCM



DUDLEY, JUNCTION STREET

A furnished first floor flat, briefly comprising of: Warm Air Heating, Spacious Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Bathroom with NO SHOWER, Communal Garden On Road Parking

£350 PCM



DUDLEY, BLACKACRE ROAD

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Offers in the region of £26,000.

Contact Mrs Raven 01785 255555.

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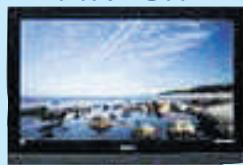
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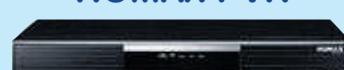
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sport

Bala goal enough to end loss run

Lye Town 0
Dudley Town 1

A WELL-CRAFTED goal finished off by Dreniz Bala was enough to dispose of Lye Town in a keenly-fought local derby.

Bala's goal ended a run of three consecutive defeats for the Robins.

He again looked dangerous in front of goal, although the first real chance fell to Anthony Cox. Put through by Alex Perry, he was unable to quite lift the ball over Lye keeper Tom Harper.

Lye did have their chances but anything that Chris Poyntz or Connor Courtney threw at Dudley failed to test Robins keeper Matt Rodgers.

Harper was on call again on 37 minutes when Bala broke through the Lye defence only to see the keeper claim the ball with a brave interception.

Guided

The more the game wore on the more it looked as if the visitors would take the lead and Bala forced another fine stop from Harper.

The goal, when it came, was a fine one. Cox broke free down the left before delivering a pinpoint cross that was guided delightfully past Harper by Bala with 24 minutes remaining.

Bala should have made it 2-0 just minutes later but his firm shot was again held well by the solid Harper.

With time running out Lye started to push forward and created more opportunities.

Poyntz should have done better when allowed space and former Dudley midfielder Damien Whitecombe forced a good save from the ever-improving Rogers.

Saxons cannot hold on in teeth of an onslaught

Barking 31 Stourbridge 16

STOURBRIDGE Saxons suffered a second-half onslaught from unbeaten Barking as they went down by 15 points at Goresbrook to the National League One high-flyers.

The Saxons led 11-10 at half-time but were barely able to get out of their own half after the interval as Barking showed the form that has them battling for the title with London Scottish.

The home side outscored Stourbridge by three tries to one in the second half. The visitors sole score came against the run of play with a Charlie Hayter interception, writes Tim Evershed.

Barking left wing Scott Alfie scored two tries in a little over quarter of an hour to swing the match.

Brackley Town 6 Halesowen Town 0

ANOTHER heavy defeat left rock-bottom Halesowen with a mountain to climb to avoid relegation.

Improving Brackley gained revenge for their 5-3 defeat at The Grove in November, leaving the Yeltz eight points off safety with just four games remaining, writes David Johnson.

Halesowen's Tuesday night agony began after just six minutes when a throw-in found Carl Palmer and his shot was turned home by Francis Green.

Tom Winter thumped the ball past keeper Louis Connor to double the lead just two minutes later.

Williams rescues Harriers

Kidderminster 3
Luton Town 3

HARRIERS defender Mike Williams grabbed a dramatic stoppage-time equaliser after an avalanche of second-half goals in a topsy-turvy Blue Square Premier clash against play-off rivals Luton.

A Chris McPhee penalty gave Harriers a 1-0 interval lead before the Hatters went ahead with goals from Robbie Willmott and Claude Gagnapka in the 57th and 90th minutes.

Before the interval Connor did well to save at the feet of Winters as the Brackley danger-man tried to round the keeper.

Just as in the first half Halesowen made an awful start to the second and conceded two more quickfire goals.

The fourth goal came in surprising fashion when Connor flapped and dropped Owen Story's left-wing corner into his own net.

Story added his second goal of the game to make it 5-0 just two minutes later by driving into the bottom corner from the penalty area.

The remainder of the game took on the feel of a friendly match, with the visitors unable to rouse a meaningful response.

Winters completed the scoring in the 80th minute by touching home a rebound after Connor saved Sandy's shot.

Cambridge City 7
Halesowen Town 1

Craig Hammond's first-half hat-trick left beleaguered Halesowen staring at relegation.

Jem Mills got the Yeltz back to 2-1 on Saturday with a thumping shot.

Brian Hammond ended up with four goals while Joey Abbs got a couple and David Kolodynski also scored.

But Stourbridge settled down and nearly took the lead after 10 minutes when Paul McCone's header was cleared off the line by Ryan O'Hara.

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Gary Hackett's men had another chance a minute later when Sam Rock put Rowe through

Students table their results

TWO Halesowen College students are celebrating after winning through to represent the West Midlands at a national table-tennis competition.

Adam Wheeler and Jordan Madkins competed in the doubles section of the British Colleges Sport West Midlands Championship

and won. They earned the right to represent the West Midlands at the national finals at Bath University which are being held over Easter.

Wheeler, aged 18 and from Kingswinford, is studying A-levels and a BTEC National Award in Music while Madkins, 19 and from

Quarry Bank, is also studying A-levels.

Cathy Mayall, sports organiser at the college, said: "Adam and Jordan have done extremely well – congratulations to both of them."

"It is great that they will now go to represent the West Midlands."



Winners Jordan Madkins, left, and Adam Wheeler

YELTZ STARE AT THE DROP

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Rowe's last-minute goal ends run of three defeats



Ryan Rowe celebrates his goal for Stourbridge. Pictures: Tony Marsh

Stourbridge 1 Chippenham 0

AN 89th-minute goal from top goalscorer Ryan Rowe earned Stourbridge a welcome victory after three successive losses.

The hosts rode their luck early on but Rowe's simple late finish clinched all three points.

New loan signing Aaron Griffiths was handed a debut at left-back, while Craig Slater made his first start of the season having recently recovered from a long-term injury as the Glassboys made five changes to the side beaten 5-1 by Hemel Hempstead in midweek.

The hosts were fortunate in the opening few minutes. A goalkick from Lewis Solly was inadvertently headed back towards his own goal by Ryan Mahon to put visiting striker Sam Allison in the clear. But Griffiths made an immediate impact as he got back well to make a timely tackle.

Moments later Solly let a back-pass slip past him and was relieved to see the ball roll past the post.

But Stourbridge settled down and nearly took the lead after 10 minutes when Paul McCone's header was cleared off the line by Ryan O'Hara.

The best move of the half almost led to the opening goal. Griffiths carried the ball forward and a clever dummy from Rowe allowed his pass to run through to Rock. As Griffiths continued his run, Rock's return ball allowed Griffiths to get

on goal, but the shot was clipped wide of the far post.

The Wiltshire side threatened on 18 minutes but a free-kick from just outside the area from O'Hara was safely held by Solly.

The Glassboys saw another opportunity go begging after 58 minutes. A throw-in from Slater was flicked on by Rowe to Ben Billingham who squared the ball across to Nisbett at the far post. But with the goal gaping, the striker made a hash of his finish.

The match came to life in the last 15 minutes and the home side were again thwarted when Drake's volley beat Snoddy but was cleared off the line by Greg Tindle.

Clock

Chippenham responded with their best passage of the game. With 10 minutes left Alan Griffin dispossessed McCone but Solly made a fine save.

Chippenham pressed again with Luke Gullick getting past Griffiths before striking a shot that was well blocked by Nathan Bennett.

With the clock ticking down Stourbridge snatched victory a minute from time.

Rock released Drew Canavan and, as Snoddy was drawn out of his goal, Canavan centred the ball low across the face of the box for Rowe to find the unguarded net.

But he notched the treble in injury time, finishing well after Ross Brown flicked on Brooks' corner.

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